

PHILMONT NEWS

AUGUST 2ND, 2013

75 YEARS OF
PHILMONT

ISSUE 9

“Ned Gold Room” Named After PSA Founder



Jim Lynch speaks to the audience about the history that the Gold family (left) has with Philmont on Friday, July 19 at the “Ned Gold Room” dedication. Ned Gold was one of the founders of the PSA in 1973. TIM MORGAN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Katie Landeck
Staff Writer

In a ceremony with little pomp and circumstance but a lot of laughter, the Hardesty Casa Central Gold Room was dedicated to Ned Gold, the founder of the Philmont Staff Association (PSA), on July 19.

“I’m very proud of this. I’m humbled by it, I’m a little bit embarrassed, but with my narcissism not completely, about the shrine we have here,” said Gold, pointing to a display of photos of him on the wall. “It’s

usually reserved for dead people.”

Gold worked at Philmont from 1959 to 1965. He spent his first two years working as a Ranger, became a Program Counselor at Abreu in 1961, then became a Camp Director at Lost Cabin, Fish Camp and finally Cimarroncito.

It was at the Lost Cabin campfire that Gold first dreamed up the idea of the PSA, an organization that has helped make many projects financially possible on the Ranch. The PSA is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

While the building is called the

Hardesty Casa Central, a wooden sign with yellow lettering marks the Ned Gold Room.

The two names reflect the two major donors to the project, the Hardesty Foundation, which funded the bulk of it, and the Gold Family Foundation, which donated \$100,000.

The building is vastly superior to the old one, according to General Manager John Clark.

“The old room was uncomfortable and irritating,” Clark said. “It was full of fond memories, but not what we

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2013 St. George Trek

Mary-Kate Smith
Staff Writer

The St. George Trek is a special trek held about every two years at Philmont that began in 1992. The goal of the trek was to bring together young Catholic Scout from across the country to experience Philmont from a different perspective.

This summer the St. George Trek sent out seven crews, six male crews and one female crew. The 72 youth participants met each other and their advisors at a retreat in Albuquerque a few days before they hit the trail.

“We meet everyone within 24 hours, so that is pretty different,” Participant Matt Gonzalez, Troop 1776 from Marietta, Ga. said. “Also I think there is just a different feeling about it. We are all here for different purposes. Some people just want to go to Philmont. Some people are looking for the retreat, but I think it is different because most Philmont treks come out here just for the hiking, just to shoot shotguns, just to go Abreu and drink root beer. The St. George Trek, we are out here to experience God through nature, through the beauty of nature.”

The participants apply and are selected for the Trek by their local diocese and Committee on Catholic Scouting.

“The local Catholic Committee selects them and sponsors them and, hopefully, pays their fee,” Director of the St. George Trek Father Gerard Gentleman said. “That is the ideal sometimes we have to do some scholarships. They are selecting people that they believe personally it would be a good experience for but also someone they believe would come back and assist with the work of Catholic Scouting

in the diocese ... That is why they get chosen.”

Many of the participants hold religious medals as well as awards in Scouting and are considered leaders in Catholic Scouting.

Five of the male crews were led by a priest and a seminarian. One male crew was led by two priests, and the female crew was led by two Benedictine nuns. The Catholic faith was incorporated in the Trek in a variety of ways.

“There were six male crews. They all had at least one priest, so we typically had mass everyday on the trail which is pretty cool,” crew advisor Deacon Adam Carrico said. “We found a nice sized rock to use as an altar or something like that. Then we of course do grace before meals and all of that. We try to find ways of praying the litany of the hours or praying the rosary that kind of thing to add that extra sense of spirituality.”

For participant Connor Nielson, Charlotte, N.C. Troop 8, having mass in the Philmont Backcountry was a very new and unique experience.

“I actually go to the largest Catholic Church in the country, so we have like a 30 foot cross on the altar and over 2,000 seats that fill up ever time,” Nielson said. “Being with 12 people just sitting around, sometimes literally just a rock with a cross and chalice on it was really cool. We set in a circle and would have mass, or we would sit at a picnic table at a staff camp. It was just a much more intimate experience. Being able to have eye contact during the homily was weird, but it’s been really cool.”

Some of the crews held mass on the base of the Tooth of Time and on Window Rock. In the middle of the St. George trek each of the seven crews met at Cimarroncito for two days to

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Anika Lavios

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Videographer

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August 3-August 10

Saturday, 3	Sunday, 4	Monday, 5	Wednesday, 7	Thursday, 8	Friday, 9	Saturday, 10
8 p.m. Dodgeball @ Baldy Pavilion	8 p.m. Hembree Hall Table Tournament @ SSSAC	8 p.m. PSA Ice Cream Social @ Baldy Pavilion	7 p.m. Yoga @ PTC Small Fry 8 p.m. Movie Night: Shawshank Redemption @ Baldy Pavilion	8 p.m. Tye-die @ Baldy Pavilion	8 p.m. Smore's Night and horseshoe tossing @ Baldy Pavilion	11 a.m.-1 p.m. Last Brat Day of the season @ Baldy Pavilion

Weather

 Friday, August 2 Partly Cloudy High: 85 Low: 55	 Saturday, August 3 Isolate T-Storms High: 83 Low: 54	 Sunday, August 4 Isolated T-Storms High: 80 Low: 54	 Monday, August 5 Scattered T-Storms High: 78 Low: 54
 Tuesday, August 6 Partly Cloudy High: 80 Low: 54	 Wednesday, August 7 Partly Cloudy High: 81 Low: 52	 Thursday, August 8 Partly Cloudy High: 82 Low: 52	 Friday, August 9 Partly Cloudy High: 83 Low: 54

Corrections

In Issue 8 in the article titled "Seton Book Signing," author Steve Lewis' name was spelled "Louis."

In the same article, David Setezer was written to be part of the Patriots' Pass Council. It should have been David Setzer of Patriots' Path Council.

If any other corrections are seen please notify the PhilNews manager at philmontnps@philmontscoutranch.org or I-Camp it to News and Photo Services.



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Photo of the Week Contest

Submit your Photo to News and Photo Services and have it featured in PhilNews

During a summer that will be filled with remembering the history of Philmont, we at PhilNews are excited to be starting a new tradition. Starting in the next issue, each PhilNews will feature a staff-generated photo of the week. Any current Philmont staff member and PTC family may submit a photo. The picture must have been taken at Philmont or on Philmont used property this summer and be BSA-appropriate. Entries can be submitted in person at News & Photo Services, via I-camp, on a CD or flash drive or by an email to philmontnps@philmontscoutranch.org. Please include your name, your department or camp and a caption that includes information about where the picture was taken. Photos must be in .jpg format and at least 200 dpi. Philmont will retain the rights to use any photos submitted. Contact Photography Manager Katy Mooney or PhilNews editor Amanda Push with questions (575-376-2281 ext. 1246).

"The most effective sermon is expressed in deeds instead of words."

—Waite Phillips



SAMANTHA WAIDLER/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER 2011

Mark's Minute: Give as Much as you Have Received

Mark Anderson
Director of Program, Unit 2

August has arrived!
We have three more weeks to continue "delivering wilderness and learning adventures that last a lifetime!"
Is your team in full gear to meet the challenge?
Are you still a contributing member of the team?
Can the other members of the team count on you for support?

Does your team have a "sense of community", in other words have you created an environment where relationships grow and teammates become connected to one another in a shared mission?

I know that your team has accomplished some amazing things this summer.
It has allowed you to compound your effort with that of the other members to achieve great

results. direct or indirect cooperation from others."

As a member of the Philmont Staff you have had a chance to work together with other people who share your commitment in achieving common goals.
This can be one of life's most rewarding experiences.
As we think about teamwork we know that nothing of significance was ever achieved by an individual acting alone.

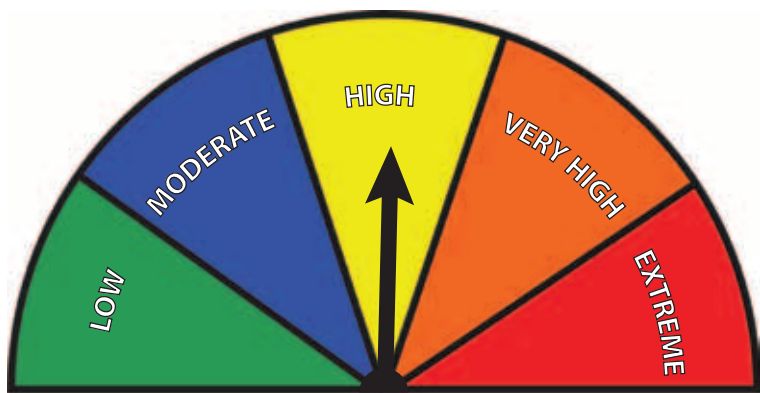
Albert Einstein, the scientist who revolutionized the world with his theory of relativity, didn't work in a vacuum. Einstein once remarked, "Many times a day I realize how much my own outer and inner life is built upon the labors of my fellow men, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received."

Just look below the surface and you will find that all seemingly solo acts are really team efforts.
Waite Phillips echoes this concept when he wrote, "Regardless of ability no one individual can accomplish and complete anything worthwhile without

During the next three weeks each of us must reflect on our commitment to the team.
We must continue to hold ourselves and each member of our team to a high standard.
Each one of us has benefited this summer from the team. We must be a contributing member of the team and "give in return as much as we have received."

"We must continue to hold ourselves and each member of our team to a high standard."
"Regardless of ability no one individual can accomplish and complete anything worthwhile without

Fire Level Warning



Water Conservation Tip #9
Wait to do laundry until you have full loads of clothes.

Attention all staff! Philmont has experienced a below average snow and rainfall over the past 60 months. We are currently at a level three fire risk level.
As a result, staff and participants are prohibited from doing the following:

- Setting off fireworks
 - Smoking except for in designated areas
 - Starting open fires
- Thank you for complying with our fire restrictions in order to keep Philmont a safe place.

Continued Training: First Round Sign-Up

Continued Training sessions are educational courses taught primarily by Ranger Leadership to improve the experiences our crews receive. They are held in the Walcutt Room of the SSSAC 6-6:45 p.m. every night of the summer. All staff members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Courses such as Geology, Flora and Fauna, Astronomy, GPS use and Navigation and Stove Maintenance are all taught. Each session is conducted twice to catch as many staff members as possible. If you are interested in teaching Continued Training session, contact Eric Martinez, Associate Chief Ranger, ext. 1222. Remember to stop in to visit with Eric at least 7 days before your first night of presenting to discuss your plans.

Dates	Topic	RTs
7-31 & 8-2	History of Outdoor Youth Programs	1. James Cox
8-7 & 8-9	Tracking & Scat	1. Sarah Johnson

Continued From Page One, Founder

needed.”

The new building – for which the first dedication ceremony was June 7 -- is much more contemporary with a flat screen television mounted on two walls and Wi-Fi. The walls, in typical Philmont fashion, are decorated with taxidermy and maps of Philmont.

The room is practical in nature, with a divider to create more training spaces and bathrooms that can be either single gendered or co-ed, as Director of Program and emcee Mark Anderson proudly showed guests. But small details, like the Fleur-De-Lis decorating the supports of the ceiling beams, add a level of sophistication to the room.

Almost a dozen members of the Gold family attended the ceremony, including his two brothers, children and grandchildren.

“This is the first time the three Gold brothers have been together at Philmont in 45 years,” said Gold.

“Stand by for something to happen.”

During his speech, Gold shared some of his Philmont memories – like when he forced his son, Greg, to hike the Tooth of Time with a full pack so he could take the picture that currently hangs in the Gold room.

Greg Gold, who was sitting in the front row, chuckled as his father recounted the story. Earlier in the program he had spoken and had the chance to tell a few of his own stories including the one’s his father and uncles used to tell him growing up.

“I think the motivation [for the PSA] had to be to create a repository for former staff to listen to these stories over and over again,” said Greg Gold.

The Hardesty Casa Central will be used as a year round facility. Anderson said he expects the Ned Gold Room will be used for training 75 percent of the time and participants 25 percent of the time.



John Clark (right) addresses Ned Gold and family(left), along with other PSA members about the journey that has been taken in order to develop the Hardesty Casa Central on Friday, July 19. TIM MORGAN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

FOR SALE: Ute Park Cabin Remodel Project
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Continued From Page One, Trek

celebrate both the trek and the Eucharist together.

According Katie Morgan, Aiken, S.C. Venture Crew 115, one of the masses at Cimarroncito took place between two massive rain storms.

“Instead of bells to signify the transubstantiation we had lightning,” Morgan said. “That was the most dangerous mass I’ve ever attended.”

Girls were unable to have mass every day, but they said the rosary each day. For Morgan, the St. George Trek was full of unexpected experiences.

“This morning I felt like it was the craziest thing that I have ever done in my life,” Morgan said. “We woke up at 3 a.m. and we left camp at 4 a.m. We hiked up the stockade trail in the dark with 55 pound packs on our backs and with two nuns. I never thought I’d do anything like that. It was the craziest thing I’d ever done.”

The 86 participants and advisors on the St. George Trek definitely experienced Philmont in a different way.

“On the tooth of time . . . I did a 360 on that little top rock,” Gonzalez said. “I did a 360, and I thought, ‘God made all of this, and it is amazing.’ That’s one of the main things. It is experiencing God through the beauty of Philmont.”

Gonzalez’s fellow St. George Trek participant, Neilson agreed that the Catholic trek is a one of a kind experience.

“Philmont is a spiritual, magical place already, and going there with people who really are immersed in their faith and in their relationship with God really taught me a lot about my relationship with God,” Neilson said. “It really helped me to appreciate the land so much more.”

Owen’s Corner

Fashion designer Coco Chanel had a personal rule: Before she left the house, the style icon always removed one piece of her ensemble to avoid the faux-pas of wearing too many accessories. Were Chanel alive today and working as a hiring manager, she would likely offer similar advice to job seekers: You don’t have to include everything. Job seekers do themselves a disservice when they send out resumes with more information than they need. Most employers don’t have the time or patience to sift through the irrelevant details. Here are 10 things your resume could do without:

1. Spelling mistakes and grammatical errors.

“If you are careless enough to send out this most important document with a mistake... I immediately assume you’ll never care enough about the work you send out representing my company,” says Jose Bandujo, president of New York-based Bandujo Advertising. He recalls one candidate who misspelled Manhattan, despite having worked in the city for a decade and another whose great educational background didn’t compensate for the fact that he couldn’t spell “education.”

2. Opening objectives.

“These are generic... They do nothing to differentiate one candidate from another,” says Donna Flagg, president of The Krysalis Group, a human resource and management consulting firm in New York.

3. Personal attributes.

Listing personal information such as height, weight and age and providing photographs is a pet peeve for Heather Mayfield, vice president of training and operations for Snelling Staffing Services. “It is amazing that we still see this on the résumés of today, but they are out there.”

4. Interests and hobbies.

If these points of information don’t pertain to the job in question, there’s no need to include them. “Create a mystery and save these kinds of data points when you start the job,” advises Roy Blitzer, author of “Hire Me, Inc.: Resumes and Cover Letters that Get Results.”

5. Details of every task you’ve ever performed in every job you’ve ever had.

“It’s too much information. Managers and recruiters need to know at-a-glance what makes a candidate special,” Flagg says. Focus on those details that pertain to the job for which you’re applying.

6. Excessive bragging.

Stating one’s accomplishments can be helpful, but when it’s overdone, the candidate can come across as narcissistic, a



**KATY MOONEY/
PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER**

huge turnoff for employers, Flagg says.

7. Outdated information.

Leave off the activities that you did in high school if graduation was a few years ago and omit jobs you held 10 or more years ago, as the information is probably irrelevant to the position you’re trying for now.

8. False information.

“Putting [that you have] a B.S. on a resume when you do not have one is ‘BS,’” jokes Stephen Viscusi, author of “On the Job: How to Make it in the Real World of Work.” Not only is lying on a resume unfair and dishonest, it’s also not very intelligent. “Companies verify dates of employment -- often after you start. If you have lied, they fire you...Nobody wants to hire a liar. Nobody.”

9. Unexplained gaps in work history.

While job seekers should account for these gaps, they should be careful with their wording. “One of the weirdest things that I ever saw on a résumé... was a candidate who explained a 10-year lapse in work experience as being in jail during those years for killing her husband,” recalls Linda Goodspeed, marketing recruiting manager at VistaPrint. In such a situation, she says, the best thing to write would be “left work for personal reasons,” and the candidate would be able to explain the criminal record later.

10. A lack of professionalism.

Colored paper, cutesy fonts, links to personal websites and childish e-mail addresses all scream unprofessional and are a turn off to hiring managers. One otherwise qualified applicant didn’t get an interview at Bandujo’s firm solely because of the name in her email address: “weird2themax.” “I recognize the advertising industry is full of talented, interesting ‘characters,’” Bandujo says, “but did I really want one who thought she was weird to the max?” No, he decided, he did not.

Credit to: Mary Lorenz, CareerBuilder.com writer

Group Leaders Lead Fun and Learning at PTC

Mary-Kate Smith
Staff Writer

The Philmont Training Center Group Leaders spend their summers working with all ages of participants in PTC family program.

According to Wally Wolanin, Group Leader Coordinator, the job of the 19 Group Leaders is to provide age

appropriate family program.

"They provide fun and educational learning activities, games, hikes, but in a safe environment," Wolanin said.

Group Leaders participate and lead a variety of activities both on and off the Ranch.

"You get a little bit of a variety of everything," Wolanin said. "You do almost all the jobs you do on the Ranch.

You get into the Backcountry, but you stay at Base also. You do Dutch oven cooking and other outdoor cooking. You do arts and crafts over at handicraft. We do horseback rides."

Throughout the summer, the Group Leaders are rotated so they are not with the same age group ever single week. They can cover any age group from Small Fry all the way up to Silverados.

"For the most part, I find myself having to change my mind set every week depending on the age group," first year Group Leader Enrique Lopez said. "I know with the Broncos I have to be more sarcastic and open with them, and they enjoyed it a lot."

Second year Group Leader Brennan Power, agrees that working with different group definitely involves having a different mindset.

"I've been with Deputies the most," Powers said. "That group is 8 to 9 year-old boys ... I've been with them a lot and my mindset is kind of based on them. Then this week for the first time ever, I had kids over the age of 10, 11 to 13-year-olds, so I had to adapt a little bit. It was a big change for me. It was just totally different, but it was still a great time. I really enjoyed it."

Each Group Leader has different groups they really enjoy working with. Group Leader Sibyl Cox enjoys working with both the younger and older groups.

"I like the Silverados a lot," Cox said. "They are a lot of fun. They get to do a lot of cool stuff that is different. They go on field trips and stuff like that, and you go with them. They are interested in how Philmont works and the history in the area, ... but at the same time it is way fun working with the younger kids too because they are so fun. They are way creative, and they never stop playing."

Wolanin explained that being a Group Leader is different than other jobs on the Ranch because of the variety

of activities and ages the Group Leaders work with.

"You just get to see so much and do so many different things that other staff just don't get the opportunity to do on such a regular basis," Wolanin said. "Every Monday it is something different and then every week it is something different too."

Wolanin said the most rewarding part of the job is having kids come back year to year and still recognize and remember you.

"You know that you spent just one week with those kids, and you made such good memories for them," Wolanin said.

PTC hosts its own opening and closing campfire once a week that the all of the family program participants are part of.

"Sometimes at closing campfire when it is time to say goodbye, we will have a few of the kids who are a little bit teary eyed because the week is over, and that means that we have done something right. I think," Wolanin said.

Cox said that her summer as a Group Leader has been a great experience so far.

"Philmont has been a great place, and I think ... a camping environment for a kid is an amazing thing," Cox said. "They learn a lot about themselves, learn new skills and become more confident. They learn to make new friends, just out of the blue."



PTC Group Leaders Casey Miller and Jackie Christianson and Mustang Colleen McCulloch play during a COPE challenge on Wednesday, July 17 at the COPE Course. The Mustangs are a PTC group of 11- to 13-year-old girls. They spend a week doing various activities around the Ranch, including an overnighter in the backcountry, horseback riding and the COPE course. CASSIDY JOHNSON/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

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Challenges of Dan Beard

Mary-Kate Smith
Staff Writer

The staff at Dan Beard helps crews to work together on a challenge course. The experiences at Dan Beard set it apart from other challenge camps in a variety of ways.

The course at Dan Beard is one of the newest on the Ranch. The majority of the 10 low elements were recently replaced and were installed in April 2013. Low elements are challenge course elements that do not require a harness and are relatively low to the ground. Several of these elements are unique to Dan Beard.

"We have different stuff than the other challenge camps," Program Counselor Kirsten Siegel said. "Like we have this really cool cargo net thing, and we are the only ones who have that. We have a lot of fun with it ... It's up in the air, and it looks like a giant hammock. Everybody has to get up and into the cargo net."

The laser element is another activity unique to Dan Beard. Scouts crawl through a path with crisscrossed ropes

across it. They pretend the ropes are like laser sensors in a museum, and they can't touch them.

Dan Beard also has the wall, the spider web and the nitro crossing.

Pablo Torres, Troop 557, said he enjoyed doing the spider web with his troop.

"I thought it was cool because everybody had a chance to lead, and we all listened to each other's idea about who should go through what part of it," Torres said. "I think it is a really cool camp just like they said in the beginning one of the rules is being chill."

Dan Beard has the smallest crew load of any of the challenge camps. They keep up the energy, hangout with their crews constantly and provide a unique experience to each crew.

"It's a lot of fun because every single crew we take out they get a different experience," Siegel said. "We don't do the same program twice which is like really cool."

Because Dan Beard is such a small camp, they are able to give each crew a large amount of individual attention.

"We can take crews out for like five hours if they so choose, and I think that our staff just does a really, really good job of making sure that every single crew that gets out on the course has an amazing experience," Program Counselor Brendan Chamberlain-Simon said. "Part of that comes with being so small and tightknit that we can make that happen."

In addition to the challenge course, the Dan Beard staff also hosts a hula hoop competition.

"Our porch competition ... is to see who can hula hoop the longest continuously," Siegel said. "This kid hula hooped for an hour and a half straight. He is our number one right now. He was like reading a magazine and walking around and hula hooping."

The staff has a board to write down the winning hula hoop times. Sometimes they will send mail to Scouts who get on the board.

At night the staff plays Beard Ball with the crews that stay the night.

"Beard Ball is ... ultimate Frisbee played with a Nerf football," Siegel said. "It is kind of like football, but you catch it.



A Scout swings over to a platform where his crewmates await his arrival at the low course on Wednesday, July 17 at Dan Beard. DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

You can only go as far as your momentum takes you before you move again, until you throw it. Then to score a point you have to kick it, and someone from your team has to catch it in the end zone. So it is like if ultimate Frisbee and football had a baby. And it grew a beard. And you were in the Valle."

Torres expressed that his crew had an excellent experience at Dan Beard.

"I think we all bonded and became closer friends in under an hour," Torres

said. "For day three, that is pretty great."

The staff at Dan Beard welcomes crews with high energy and excitement trying to make a great experience for each scout.

"Every now and again we get letters from people saying, 'Hey you made our trek. Your staff is just the best staff that we've come across,'" Chamberlain-Simon said. "Knowing that we make kids' days every single day is like really, really awesome."

Scouts Climb to the Top at Miners Park

Katie Landeck
Staff Writer

On average, it takes a Scout between two and four minutes to make it to the top of the Otterpop, the easiest of the three routes offered to climbers at Miners Parks.

It's a short period of the time, probably shorter than a Scout's

favorite song, but it's a memory that will last a lifetime.

"I'm really proud of myself," said Jahsai Brower - Green, a Scout from Baltimore. "I can't believe I did it."

For many Scouts, Philmont is the first opportunity they have had to rock climb. It's a proposition that can be both scary and exciting.

"I'd never climbed," said Andrew McLean, a Scout from Kansas City. "When we were deciding what itinerary, I saw that this one had rock climbing. I had never done it before and I wanted to."

When McLean first started climbing, he was a little "shaky" and unsure of what to do. But once the staff started coaching him on where to put his hands and feet, he was easily able to make it up the 20 foot rock face.

"Stay calm and listen to the people in charge," said McLean.

Miners Park offers some of the toughest climbs at Philmont. The Otterpop is graded as a 5.3 under the Yosemite Decimal System. The five signifies that it is vertical rock, and the decimal indicated how hard it is. The system original capped out at 5.9 but now goes up higher. The other two climbs offered at Miners Park are the Struggle Bus and the Kraken, which are graded somewhere between 5.7 and 5.9.

"They're challenging," said

Program Counselor Katie Gavin. "It's not like walking up a ladder like you do on some towers. It's tough."

Because the rocks are more challenging, the camp is able to offer something for both inexperienced and experienced climbers, according to Gavin.

"For kids who actually climb and want something like that, it's great," said Gavin.

Many of the kids who have climbed before have only climbed in a gym or on a tower. For them, climbing real rock is a very "different" experience.

"Once you're on the rock face, you have a limited area of vision so you have to feel around," said Scout Nate Gamble from Kansas City. Gamble had bouldered in a gym before coming to Philmont.

"This is more fun," he said. "You don't have routed set up so you sort have to feel up hand holds."

The key difference between the two makes climbing on rock more difficult than climbing in a gym, or on the tower or traverse

wall that Miners Park offers for evening activity. However, the staff has become good at coaching kids from both the ground and the top in order to get them up.

"You see a lot of Scouts that think there is no way they can do it," said Program Counselor Shane Panchot. "Then they get up and they rappel down."

Almost every Scout that attempts the climb makes it to the top. Less than one Scout a day gets lowered back down, according to Panchot. Between 50 to 100 Scouts makes the climb every day.

When it rains, climbing is cancelled because "you can't climb if the rocks are wet because it is slippery, you can't climb if the ropes are wet because it's dangerous, and you can't climb if it is thunder or lightning obviously," said Gavin.

As a result, up until recently, Miners Park could not offer any program if it was raining. However, a new covering over the traverse wall will enable the camp to run a rainy day program.



A participant rappels down a rock face on Saturday, July 20 at Miners Park. DAVID SPITZNAGEL/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Restoring Rich Cabins

Joe Bruner
Staff Writer

Rich Cabins is an interpretive camp portraying life for the Rich Family as it was in 1907. To maintain that appearance, a restoration crew stays at the cabin to work on projects, which keep the cabin safe and presentable.

"This summer, the restoration crew has been concerned with finishing the boys' room, according to Reid Johnston, a Cabin Restoration crew member.

"Last year, Cabin Restoration put in the top four or five logs that are in there, so they had to jack up the roof. This year, we have been primarily concerned with getting that room finished," he said. "We've stripped up floor boards, because they had pretty extensive termite damage, because they were directly on the dirt. So we're now putting in a new floor on concrete piers to keep the termites out."

While working on replacing the flooring, the crew has had a few other projects to work on, but they have not started another major project because the priority is the boys' room.

An example of a side project was working on the fireplace.

"We've finished the fireplace now," Johnston said. "The cool thing about the fireplace is there's actually one piece of old concrete that's broken off that has paw prints in it. We're not entirely sure when that got built, or when that concrete got poured."

The staff says it is possible, though unlikely, that the prints belong to the Rich family dog. "They think it is more likely it was a previous Rich Cabins staff that had a dog that simply got in the way.

"We actually had a woman up here that was on Rich Cabins 1992 staff, and that was the first year it was open. So they had a dog, they might have poured concrete," Johnston said.

Since the answer is ambiguous at best, the staff tells the Scouts that the prints belong to the Rich family dog.

"That makes a better story than 'hey, some staffers had a dog up here and they let it walk across

the concrete,'" said Johnston.

While restoring the house is certainly a big undertaking, and it reveals some unique finds, the staff is also aware of future needs to be addressed.

"The big one that's coming up ... they're going to be repairing the wall to the CD room," Johnston said. "They got seven or eight logs on that side that are pretty seriously dry rotted."

A primary concern is a 2x6 piece of wood that the restoration crew has dubbed "Atlas." According to Program Counselor Weston Mate, because it is holding up so much weight to the house, it has started to bend, and should it break or snap, a large portion of the house will fall over.

Another problem is the house has also started to sink.

"The house has become so heavy and with no drainages, the house has started to sink into the ground," Johnston said. "Probably later this summer we'll work on drainage quite a bit."

The last major project to be worked on in the near future is replacing the floor to the CD room and the commissary, according to Cabin Restoration Crew Member Van Bucsko.

"The floor that we took out of the boys room, the plan was to use it in the CD room and possibly the commissary, because it's mostly still good and can be used," Bucsko said.

Reusing materials that are still adequate is very important to the restoration crew.

"That's the thing with restoration," Johnston said. "We want to keep as much of it original as possible. It's not always a possibility, but for example we rebuilt our swap box with pieces of the original house that were not usable for anything else. We're trying to keep as much of the original house, within the house itself"

Another example of keeping to the time period is what the crew has decided to do with the plaster they are using.

"We're using modern plaster as opposed to period accurate plaster. The only difference there is that at the time they would have used the hair from their burros to mix in

with their plaster to [help it] stick to things a little better," Johnston said.

To make up for that detail, the restoration crew has been brushing the burro and has gotten burro hair to mix in with the plaster.

The crew is very conscious about remaining interpretive and using tools that the family would have had back in the day.

"We use primarily period accurate tools or tools they would have had, and we do most of it with hand tools," said Johnston. "And that's part of the thing, they could have hired a team of contractors that are actual professionals that could have gotten done in a month and have it done really well."

The problem with that is, "the contractors wouldn't have made an attempt to be interpretive," said Bucsko.

The restoration crew takes care to remain in character in everything they do.

"The whole Rich family is from Austria, so we include a lot of German stuff or program in the campfire and the cabin tours," Bucsko said.

"Even in what we do and how we're working," Mate said. "on the door [to the boys room] is 'Achtung,' which is 'caution' in German."

"When Scouts are around, we try to be as accurate as possible," Johnston said.

And Scouts are around quite often.

"The Scouts have been helping us out with that a little bit ... they do a passable job, we have them do the roughing work for it, and then we come in and clean up a little bit so it looks presentable," Johnston said. "That's been pretty cool for them, they enjoy it a lot, they get to make a lasting impression on Rich Cabins. We also have them gather pinecones and whatnot to stuff into cracks to use as insulation."

The "roughing," which is the first step of removing excess wood and smoothing the log down, is part of the program that Rich Cabin offers, which is one way the lines between the Program Counselors and the Cabin Restoration crew are blurred. That sense of unity is important to all the staff members.



Ranger Dianna Green hands a cinderblock to Cabin Restoration staff Reid Johnston on Tuesday, July 23 at Rich Cabins. The Cabin Restoration staff spend the summer repairing parts of the building so it can be used for program in the future. CONNOR SPURR/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

"There's five cabin restoration [crew members] and six program counselors. We do a little bit of what they do and they do a little bit of what we do," Johnston said. "It's working out well."

"I don't really see a separation," Camp Director Ian Bagley said. "They have their project that they're working on pretty much during the day time hours, and of course the Program Counselors are making sure the crews are taken care of, but they could easily slip into any of the roles we have here. We've had Program Counselors helping the restoration [crew] and vice versa. There aren't any real transition problems. It just feels like we're finally all just Rich Cabins staff, regardless of our actual assigned duties. That's what we've been trying to go for all summer and so we've really gotten

into the last couple weeks. It makes us a lot happier too, knowing that we can trust each other on things."

"A bunch of us have worked on characters that we've invented in an attempt to be interpretive and to be fun," Bucsko said.

It also is apparent in the evening programs too.

"For evening program we're able to do a myriad of things together," Program Counselor Zoe Macknick said. "We've finally come to a good merger. The line between the restoration crew and PCs is blurred."

For Lee Ferrin, a Program Counselor, the group has achieved what appealed to her for the position.

"I liked the idea of having a bigger family," she said. "We all have different titles... but we're all part of the Rich Cabins family."

The Crater Lake Conclave

Katie Landeck

Staff Writer

With his thumbs tucked into his suspenders, James Hoffman paces back and forth on the Crater Lake cabin breezeway as he tells Scouts about his logging company.

"You are now working for me," says Hoffman, whose real name is Matthew Groff. "I'll train you ... and you'll make some money today."

The Scouts, knowing they won't do any hard labor or make any money, laugh. Most of them are thinking about spar pole climbing, the camp's star program. But there is also some chatter about whether or not to make railroad ties, a few curious questions about what the log in the front yard is for and an occasional question about the night's campfire.

Set in a stand of pine trees, Crater Lake is Philmont's south country logging camp. For years, it has operated as a branch of the Continental Tie & Lumber Company, with staff members portraying burly lumberjacks, who are a little rough around the edges.

But this year, a day at Crater Lake is not just another day of cutting trees;

it's a party.

"We just wanted to do everything differently than logging camps did in the past," said Camp Director Karl Hubbard. "Logging camps haven't always had the best reputation with hospitality."

It was a problem the staff was determined to fix.

"We were planning the campfire and doing back stories and someone said 'hey, what if we were just a group of friends that meets once a year to compete,'" said Program Counselor Daniel Howland.

Howland, who competes on his University's logging team, instantly recognized what they were talking about.

"You mean like a conclave," he said.

He then went on to explain that conclaves are annual logging competitions where people come from all over to compete. In the United States, there are five regions. Howland competes in the Association of Western Forestry Clubs (AWFC) Conclave, which is celebrating its 75th conclave this year.

"It runs like a track meet," Howland said. "Everyone wants to beat you at your best, but if someone is mean to

someone else, they get shunned."

By switching to the conclave, staff had more freedom when developing their characters. They no longer had to fit the "rough and tough" stereotype of a logger, but could instead be themselves, just as they would be in 1914.

"When you are able to be who you are, it's a lot easier to be genuine," said Hubbard. "James Hoffman owning his own logging company is one of the highlights of our show, and we couldn't do that if we were the Continental Railroad & Lumber Company."

While not the Continental Railroad & Lumber Company, the staff still tries to make it as authentic an experience as possible for the Scouts. The instructions for how to make railroad ties come from a 1930s manual. The clothes are from the time period. And Groff, even has a mustache but no beard, because during 1914 most loggers used a single blade razor that made shaving a mustache every morning too difficult.

"We act this way and live this way so they can get a feel for what it was actually like," said Groff.

But the freedom of the Conclave (they tell the Scouts it's the 7th Annual)

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Participant Sam Mead of Crew 711-H-02 from Clarkston, Michigan complements his "donkey" Tommy Hickey before ascending a spar pole on Saturday, July 20 at Crater Lake. Mead complimented Hickey with the line, "Are you from Tennessee? Cause you're the only ten I see." TIM MORGAN/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

The Strange and Mysterious Life of Top of Urraca Mesa

Katie Landeck

Staff Writer

The story Program Counselor Benji Smith was told not long after he learned he would be working at Urraca Mesa goes something like this.

One night a few years ago, the Urraca Mesa staff was sitting in their cabin when they heard a terrifying trampling noise surrounding the. It was the sort of loud, booming sound that convinced them to stay inside, not even venturing out onto

their porch, until the trampling stopped.

When it ended, they went outside to figure out what had happened.

"There was nothing," said Smith. "No tracks, no trampled grass, nothing."

It has long been rumored the Urraca Mesa is haunted. There are reports of unexplained blue lights that can be seen at night and ghostly figures wandering about. To further add to the mesa's intrigue, it has a high incidence of lightning strikes, and its mineral composition makes it so that compasses

don't work.

"We haven't had any paranormal activity," said Program Counselor Maggie David. "But Urraca is creepy."

Staff say it is not uncommon to feel like they're being stalked and there is "some animal that barks in the middle of the night," said

David.

The staff isn't sure what it is. All they know is that it's loud.

Making the most of Urraca's eerie past, the staff tell stories about the ghosts that are said to haunt Urraca and share a bit of the camp's history during their campfire.

According to legend, the Anasazi tribe moved onto the mesa at year zero when the glaciers receded. By year 500, the Anasazi people had started to settle in building pit houses and starting to keep livestock. In the year 1100, they created the cliff dwellings, but by 1300 it was empty. It's a phenomenon that had puzzled historians, according to Smith.

"But we have our own theory about what caused it," said Smith. "In 1300 the eye of the mesa opened."

The eye of the mesa is rumored, by the Anasazi's, to be a gateway into hell. In 1300, it broke open and the entire tribe, save one shaman, battled the forces back. The shaman then sealed the entryway with four pillars, representing the four elements.

Two of the four pillars have already fallen causing catastrophic events, according to Smith.

"The last two remain, for wind and earth to take their toll," said Smith.

But that's not the only creepy thing that has happened on the mesa.

Program Counselor Meghan Roy tells the story of the two lovers that Lover's Leap is named after. The lovers came from two warring tribes. Unable to deal with the strife, they threw themselves off of the rocks and fell to their death.

Albeit her story is a little different than the official one, where only the man jumps, as Camp Director Taylor Patterson is quick to point out. But, he - along with the rest of the staff - believe their version is better.

While a couple other stories are told, Program Counselor Maggie Spangler tells the closing story. It's about Jack, a friend of her brother's, who ran into a cowboy's ghost while hiking on the mesa.

The cowboy wore an "empty expression" and rode a white horse. He approached Jack, and told him that he

had room for one more.

"He told him 'no thank you sir,'" said Spangler.

But the horseman persisted, until eventually Jack just took off running.

Then, "he looked behind him and no one was there," Spangler said.

It wasn't until Jack was back at Arizona State University that he saw the cowboy again, beckoning from an elevator. Just like before, he said there was room for one more.

To learn what happened next, you'll have to hike up to Urraca and watch the show.

"We want visitors," said Patterson.

In addition to telling stories, staff play an assortment of songs at the campfire, although they won't say which ones in the hopes that the mystery will convince people to go see the show.

"We don't want to give away our secrets," said Smith.

The songs, Spangler hints, are all "as creepy as possible" with "weird lyrics."

But to verify that, you'll have to start hiking.



Urraca campfire. IMAGE COURTESY OF TAYLOR PATTERSON

Roving the Outdoors

Mary-Kate Smith
Staff Writer

The Roving Outdoor Conservation School trek, or ROCS, began in 2000 as a 21 day special trek experience that taught participants about conservation and environmental topics.

According to Ingria Jones, Coordinator for Environmental Education, the ROCS program began as one of Mark Anderson's dreams, and it has grown immensely since its inception in 2000.

"The goal of the program is to instill curiosity about the environment and to encourage participants to become lifelong learners," Jones said.

During the first few years of ROCS, it was organized a little bit differently. There were seven days of hiking, seven days spent at one work site and then another seven days trekking.

"It was two trek weeks sandwiched by a work week," Jones said. "Now we do it a little bit differently. We have three weeks of trekking, and throughout trekking, the instructors are encouraged to facilitate informal conservation projects like pulling invasive weeds or helping with meadow encroachment. Then they also visit three conservationist sites."

This summer four ROCS crews went out, including three male crews and one female crew. There were 32 participants this summer that ranged in age from 16 to 20.

"Most of them are high schoolers, usually late high school, who have an interest in conservation," Jones said. "A lot of them have really varying interests. We kind of see our program as a really great way to expose our students to a bunch of different areas of environmental science. They can take these experiences ... and figure out where they might focus their studies in college."

According to Sarah Burgess, the Conservation Coordinator for BEEP and STEM, ROCS is a great opportunity for students.

"Really they are students when they are on the trail," Burgess said. "We really try to stress to them that they are students first, and that we want their environmental, science, critical thinking and brain storming processes to be really [strong]."

Each ROCS crew is lead out by two instructors that are Environmental Educators from the conservation department.

"Our educators all have a great background," Burgess said. "There is a variety of backgrounds between all ten of them: where they are from, what their knowledge specialty is, what their major was."

The ROCS instructors teach each crew a total of 22 lessons on the trail.

"Every lesson has some interactive component whether it is a game or using new lab equipment or being introduced to those resources," Jones said. "Some lessons end up being longer. Others end up being

Continued on page 14, Roving



Conservation GIS staff members Chris Leininger and Stephanie Teeter teach participants of ROCS trek 630-WR about GPS and the coordination system the Ranch uses on Sunday, July 14 at Cyphers Mine. GIS stands for geographic information system and is used to create all Philmont maps. KAITLYN CHABALLA/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Duties of the Ranger Trainers

Joe Bruner
Staff Writer

By choosing how and when to schedule assignments, Ranger Trainers manage Ranger Work Days and liaise with Backcountry camps on how to improve training and the experience for crews.

"We have flexible schedules," said Ranger Trainer William Suggs. "We have a very free schedule and whatever work we're feeling like doing that day, that's the work we do, whether it's to observe a Ranger or do paperwork in Base Camp that we need to get done, or visit our liaison."

The flexibility in schedule allows Ranger Trainers to focus on what they feel needs the most attention on a given day.

"We set our own schedules, so we don't have a hard schedule," Ranger Trainer Jared Peterson said. "But most of the time we're out observing or evaluating our Rangers."

There are a couple fixed positions that the Ranger Trainers rotate the responsibility for. There is always someone in the Ranger Office, and there is always someone at the Welcome Center.

The Ranger in the office is important because in the case of an emergency or medical case on the trail, they are contacted and will assist as necessary.

"We're usually the first ones they come to when they do Search and Rescues, because we're usually here," said Suggs.

Otherwise there's a lot of freedom the Rangers are given.

"There's a lot of freedom that comes with it," Peterson said. "There's a lot of responsibility and a lot of freedom."

One job for Ranger Trainers is leading the work days.

"We also have a work day foreman, who goes out and leads a group of rangers during work days on Base or in the Backcountry," said Suggs.

Staff members have likely seen the Rangers' recent work of laying out additional rock paths to the side of the Camper Dining Hall.

"You'll find Rangers doing work days all around the Ranch," Peterson said. "They do work in the dining hall, Outfitting Services, they work over there, all these rock walls around Base Camp, those have been work days. They'll go up and clean latrines up on Tooth Ridge, Lovers' and Stockade. The trail to Cimarron, that was made last year, a lot of



Service Academy Ranger Travis Trotter touches the "Change Lives" sign before exiting the Ranger Office on Thursday, July 25. The sign is there as a reminder to Rangers of why they're here and how important they are to a crew's Philmont experience. KEVIN BOUCHER/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

that was done between Cons and Rangers on work days."

Serving as the work day foreman, the Ranger Trainers are responsible for making sure everyone is drinking water and that the Rangers are doing the work asked, according to Peterson.

The work days take place every day starting when crews first show up to the day the last crews leave. The Ranger Trainers attempt to have the work days help out every department on the Ranch.

"Basically we have the Ranger department on a work day assigned to a different department and we try to help out every department on the Ranch with different work that they do," said Suggs.

The Ranger Trainers also evaluate their Rangers by communicating with an assigned Backcountry camp.

"Every camp has an RT that is a liaison, every staff camp, including Cavalcade and NAYLE. We check in with the staff that's working there at the camp and see if they have any problems with the Rangers," said Peterson.

"We go out and essentially we talk to them how Rangers are doing

whenever they come through their camps and other things we could do as far with training crews," said Suggs.

The Ranger Trainers also work with the Camp Directors of their assigned camp at the beginning of the summer, helping out with staff training.

"We also, with our liaison Camp Directors, lead the round robins at the very beginning of the summer when the whole a thousand staff members break into different groups, one of us and the CD leads that," said Peterson.

With having a liaison in the Backcountry and with the Rangers taking crews out, the Ranger Trainers are offered a chance to go hiking as well.

"We do get to go around and watch our Rangers in the Backcountry and so we still get to get out and hike," said Peterson. "There are opportunities to go back and give more back to the Ranch from what we've been doing in the past years as Rangers."

Suggs also feels the job gives back to the Ranch.

"It's a very rewarding job," he said. "You get to give back in a different way and teach people."

The Nalgene Tree

Katie Landeck
Staff Writer

When a customer first walks into the Tooth of Time Traders, the first thing they see is the tree of nalgene. Shaped like a young ponderosa pine, the approximately 10 foot tall display is tallest thing in the store.

On its "branches" hang dozens of different Nalgene. The bottles come in three designs, two sizes, two mouth-shapes and 19 colors. This makes for a total of 88 distinct bottles, as the TOTT does not sell every combination of color, design and shape possible, according to Store Inventory Manager Casey Micagz.

The tree has inspired TOTT staff to joke between themselves that "Nalgene are so important at Philmont they grow on trees."

This year, two of the Nalgene's sold at the TOTT feature special 75th anniversary designs. The design that most prominently celebrates the anniversary is a large 75 set in a circle.

The other 75 design is the classic arrowhead with a small 75 inserted under the Tooth of Time. This is the most popular design, according to Micagz, and is sold in every color including glow in the dark.

"We've had the arrowhead forever," said Micagz, noting that the



design is a classic at Philmont.

The third option was new to the store last year. It's a checklist of all of the staff camps and some of the more prominent peaks as well as their elevations. On the bottom, it says "Hundreds of rugged mountain wilderness trails in the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rocky Mountains in Northern New Mexico."

For people who want to personalize their Nalgene, all they need to do is take it outside the store and to the branding station on the Snack Bar Patio. There, Branding Specialist Andrew Ivey can add the cattle and horse brands to the bottle.

"I can definitely brand Nalgene," said Ivey. "People will say that I can't, but I can."

Ivey can put on one brand, two brands or a dozen brands depending on what strikes the bottle owner's fancy. He recommends getting at least one as "it adds sentimental value to your Nalgene," said Ivey.

For those who want to customize their Nalgene functionality, the TOTT carries several different caps and accessories that do that. There is a top that essentially turns the Nalgene into a Camelback minus the water pouch, and there are splash guards that make it easier to drink from the wide mouth.

All Nalgene are sold for \$12, regardless of size, shape or design. Staff members receive a 15 percent discount.



KEVIN BOUCHER/PHILNEWS
PHOTOGRAPHER

Cons Hosts the Trail Crew Trek

Mary-Kate Smith
Staff Writer

The Trail Crew Trek is one of three special treks hosted and coordinated by the Conservation department. It is the only special trek hosted by Conservation or the Ranger department that has coed crews.

The Trail Crew Trek is a unique experience similar to Order of the Arrow Trail Crew. The crew spends seven days building trail and seven days trekking. During this summer, two sessions of Trail Crew Trek went out into the Backcountry to hike and build mountain bike trails at Whiteman Vega.

"This is the first year that the Trail Crew Trek has been working on the mountain bike trail up at Whiteman Vega," Coordinator for Environmental Education Ingria Jones said. "Both sessions this summer ... are working on sections of that trail. It is a great opportunity for them to learn about land management and partnership."

The first Trail Crew Trek of the summer began on June 14 and had 3 participants while the second had six participants and began on July 26.

"Trail Crew Trek is designed to empower our participants to go back home and lead conservation service projects in their communities," Associate Director of Conservation Marc Nutter said.

The participants spend their time both hiking and building with two Environmental Educators from the Conservation department as their instructors.

"They [the instructors] get the same training as all of the other environmental educators," Nutter said. "They are obviously encouraged to engage the students in those teachable moments, and that is where the real learning takes place."

The instructors set the itinerary for the Trail Crew Trek to meet educational objectives. They teach seven core lessons to the crew throughout the trek.

"There is an educational component to a Trail Crew Trek," Jones said. "It is focused on enriching knowledge that is relevant to conservation and leading a

conservation project. They learn ecology and land management as part of their core curriculum. They do seven full lessons."

The instructors spend the first week teaching about conservation work.

"We are focusing on the hard skills of tool usage and trail building as well as the soft skills of project management and the leadership that goes along with that," Nutter said.

The participants are also offered the chance to gain leadership skills when they serve as project manager of the day.

"The role of the project manager of the day rotates through the crew throughout the course of their work week," Nutter said. "They have a pretty long to-do-list just like any project manager would ... They are conducting their crew in certain projects that they set for themselves, measurable attainable goals. Throughout the day they are taking water breaks, snack breaks and making sure everybody is safe. At the beginning of the day they lead a tool talk and a safety briefing. They are in charge of pretty much just the safety of their crew."

The Trail Crew Treks left from their worksite at Whiteman Vega for their week hiking in the Backcountry. At the end of their two weeks they have a banquet to conclude their trek and educational experience.

"They come back and they see the land differently," Jones said. "They see different life zones, and they see the effects of different management practices. They notice those things that they might not have noticed before."

According to Robert Fudge,



Associate Director of Conservation Mark Nutter instructs participants in Philmont's first Trail Crew Trek of the season on proper trail creation techniques on Tuesday, June 11 at Whiteman Vega. TCT creates new trails for Philmont usage and also maintains existing trails. DONOVAN COLE/PHILNEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

Associate Director of Conservation and OATC Coordinator, Trail Crew Trek places a strong emphasis on project management. It is built to teach participants how to start conservation projects in their local community.

"I feel like Trail Crew Trek does a really good job of trying to provide comprehensive information on how you might locate a project partner back at home and lead a conservation project for a public land back at home," Fudge said. "Trail Crew Trek put an emphasis on what you are going to do when you get back home."

Nutter and Jones encourage any prospective participants interested to contact them to talk about all the details of Trail Crew Trek.

"If you want to learn how to manage a worksite and initiate service projects in your own community that either benefit people, as far as accessibility to those natural places, or enhance and effect to biotic communities come out for two weeks and learn with some cool instructors," Nutter said. "The students that are on our treks really do see the ranch in a way that none of the other treks do."

Administration: Behind the Scenes of Philmont

Joe Bruner
Staff Writer

Administration manages and records all the resources that make Philmont run, from keeping track of finances and mail to directing the High Adventure Program.

John Clark, known as the General Manager at Philmont, is based in Administration and serves as the Director of High Adventure. He oversees the other High Adventure bases, Northern Tier and Florida Sea Base.

Aside from generally overseeing the High Adventure Program, Administration takes care of monetary transactions and

processing all the packages and mail that arrives at Base Camp. A number of full-time workers manage the money that comes in.

The accounting of Philmont is all supervised by Comptroller Steve Nelson, but most of the day to day charges are handled by accounting staff.

"I count money all day long," Tina Archuleta, the Accounts Receivable clerk, said. "I also

...Administration takes care of monetary transactions and processing all the packages that arrives at Base Camp...

receipt all the money."

Tina Archuleta handles all the donations that Philmont receives, including the recently donated Hardesty Casa Central.

Other financial duties are taken care of by Donna Archuleta, the Accounts Payable clerk, and Debbie Martinez, the Purchasing Clerk.

"I balance the accounts," Donna Archuleta said. "I take care of the credit cards; I pay all the bills."

Debbie Martinez also helps manage the bills and checks in the mail as well.

Marilyn Vargas, secretary to John Clark, communicates with FedEx, UPS and USPS and oversees that deliveries are made to Philmont.

When packages are brought to the Administration building, Barbara Garcia processes the packages that come in, and makes sure that people sign for the deliveries. Garcia is also responsible for managing the Philmont Switchboard.

"I manage the Philmont Switchboard," she said, "on average there's 300 calls that come in a day. That adds up to about 9000 a month."

A different task with impressive numbers behind it, is keeping track of the registration of every Philmont vehicle, which Tina Archuleta is responsible for.

Along with the registrations, insurance must also be accounted for. Vargas manages all the different types of insurance at the Ranch.

She also keeps track of personnel at Philmont, and is the direct supervisor to the housekeeping department.

The last big event that Vargas oversees and organizes is the hunts,

"On average, there's 300 calls that come in a day. That adds up to about 9,000 a month."

which include Antelope, Elk, Deer, Turkey and Bear hunts, all of which happen either in the fall season or mid-spring.

Bear hunts start as early as mid-August and the elk hunts go as late as mid-November. Meanwhile turkey hunts take place in April.

Whether it is an animal hunt to be organized or a package to be signed for, Administration is kept busy with organizing legal details to make sure Philmont can continue to operate smoothly when working with participants.

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Taking Care of the Livestock: Philmont's Vets

Katie Landeck
Staff Writer

Whenever a cow or horse gets sick, the management at the Ranch department doesn't rush to call the veterinarian. Instead, they examine it themselves and see what they can do.

"You learn the common problems and you learn how to treat them," said Ranch Superintendent Bob Ricklefs.

"I don't know a rancher in this country that doesn't do vet work."

Out in the field, common

injuries for livestock include cuts, cripples, sickness and colic, according to Ricklefs.

Most of these injuries can be easily handled by the management at the Ranch or even the Horsemen and Wranglers.

Sometimes, though, the injury is too severe and a vet has to be called.

"It just depends on the severity," Ricklefs said. "You learn what you can and you know your limits."

Severity is a somewhat relative term, as what one person sees as a severe may be a fairly manageable issue to another.

For example, the Ranch management is capable of performing minor surgeries, such as a helping a cow through a birth or stitches, or

dealing with a rattlesnake bite.

"A rattlesnake bite can be on the nose and stop the breathing or it can be on the leg, and that's not serious unless it infects," said Ricklefs. "But we know how to treat it [if the snake bites them on the nose], relieve the pressure and get the swelling down."

For 40 years, whenever the Ranch has needed a vet, they have called Dr. Truman Smith, a livestock and small animal vet based out of Raton.

"We learn from the vets," said Ricklefs.

Calling a vet can be an expensive proposition, so most of the time the Ranch attempts to handle the problem themselves.

The Horseman and Wranglers are responsible for caring for the animals under their charge, and therefore are taught a "certain amount" of medical care, according to

Ricklefs.

They are qualified to give the animals injections and perform other basic care such as applying ointments to sore spots or cuts.

However, if the issue seems more serious, they ask for help.

"They call the horse foreman and say 'we have a sick horse' or 'we have a crippled horse,'" said Ricklefs. "We may go out and look at it and bring it home or we might tell them how to treat it."

Handling these medical issues themselves instead of calling a vet can be a new experience for the Wranglers, particularly for individuals who have never worked on a Ranch before.

But given time, it becomes

normal.

"It was just intimidating. I thought 'will I ever be able to do this myself?'" said former Wrangler Sara McGatha in an interview earlier this

summer. Coming from Ohio, McGatha had always called a vet when there was a problem with her horse, but by the end of the summer she felt competent.

The most common care Wranglers and Horsemen perform is treating horses and burros cuts.

To do this, the spray an aerosol bandage on the wound and wait for it to get better.

"Sometimes all you can do is let it heal," said Ricklefs.

"It was just intimidating. I thought 'will I ever be able to do this myself?'"



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Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among both men and women in the United States.	Smoking causes many types of cancer such as throat, mouth, nasal cavity, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, kidney, bladder and cervix.	People who smoke are up to two to four times more likely to suffer a heart attack than nonsmokers and the risk increases with number of cigarettes smoked.

Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Jim DeLair
Protestant Chaplain

As I begin to write this Chaplain's corner I am taken slightly by surprise to realize that it is my second, where did the time go?

It is also perhaps my last for the season.

I will share with you all what I have shared with the Ranger Staff over the last few days. I would ask that you gaze at the Tooth of Time for a moment and consider the following:

"I encourage you to be flexible and fluid under the pressure that mounts as the season comes to a close."

We are all aware that the Tooth is an igneous intrusion of dacite porphyry; this provides some interesting observations regarding its formation as an intrusion it formed within and changed other rock types as it flowed upward from deep in the Earth's interior.

I encourage you to be flexible and fluid under the pressure that mounts as the season comes to a close.

Remember, that your time spent at Philmont is not only changing you but your presence and service at Philmont is changing others.

The Tooth also cooled as an intrusion at a very slow rate

and I would encourage you to allow yourself to cool in those moments of frustration and anxiousness.

Because of its slow cooling and chemical and structural nature it has stood the test of time, you too have been

changed in such a way due to changes in you personally that will prove to assist you in whatever comes next be it tomorrow or years from now.

So in closing just as the Tooth of Time has been a recognizable landmark in history and at Philmont consider that who you have become will become a recognizable consistent way point for others as you continue to live by the ideals and teachings of scouting and your individual faiths.

I wish you clear skies and smooth trails as we move forward into the closing of another season and the beginning of a new season of adventures.

Always remember and never forget...IWTGBTP.

Trail of Courage Encourages People to Quit Smoking

Katie Landeck
Staff Writer

Since the start of the summer more than 3,000 Scouts and Advisors have signed up for the Trail of Courage program at Philmont.

The Trail of Courage, which was founded in 2011, encourages campers and staff to make the "right decisions" and live a healthy lifestyle. The seven part pledge asks the campers to become personally fit, eat nutritiously, exercise, stay free of drugs and alcohol, learn the seven signs of cancer, live the Scout Oath and Law and be tobacco free.

While all parts of the program are important, it is most well known for its bid to convince people to quit using tobacco products, including cigarettes and chewing tobacco.

"Philmont is a great place to quit," Director of Program Mark Anderson told staff at Opening staff program on May 29. "We'll support you."

The Trail of Courage program is spearheaded by Camping Projects Manager Paul Grasse. Grasse was asked to take

on the program by Anderson because he's somewhat of a "crusader for non-smoking," Grasse explained.

"These statistics will save lives," said Grasse.

In his youth, Grasse smoked. But in the 1960s, he made the decision to quit, a choice that undoubtedly prolonged his life.

Grasse advises people who want to quit to just do it.

"Don't try to taper off your use of tobacco, just quit," Grasse wrote in a 2012 edition of the Philnews.

To accomplish this, he recommends throwing away all tobacco related items and devices in your possession, including ashtrays and lighters.

Once you have put down the tobacco, tell your friends and family and commit to it.

In a 2009 article, Time Magazine talked to Dr. Michael Fiore, a professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and founder of the school's Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention about the best ways of quitting.

He suggested a three pronged approach to quitting.

The first step was to receive counseling, either from friends and family or from a quit helpline. The second suggestion was to create a plan with your doctor and stick to it. The third was to take advantage of FDA approved nicotine supplements available on the market.

"All three of these are important, they work additively, each of them by themselves boost quit rates, but when you combine them it really boosts quit rates," he told Time.

Using nicotine medicines can double a person's chances of quitting. They can come in the form of gum, the patch, a lozenge, a nasal spray, an inhaler and prescription pills. It is suggested that people talk to their doctor before starting one of these treatments as many as 5 percent of people become addicted to them, according to Fiore. On average, the medications should be used for between eight weeks and six months.

But the main thing is determination.

"Approach each day with, 'I won't take my first smoke of the day today,'" Grasse wrote.

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Philmont's 75th Anniversary The Ponil Complex Fire of 2002

Joe Bruner
Staff Writer

The Ponil Complex Fire devastated over 90,000 acres of land in June 2002. It has defined much of the North Country visual experience for the Scouts, even 11 years later.

The fire formed when several wildfires, started by lightning strikes, converged together near Ponil staff camp.

Shelley O'Neill, Camping Trading Post Manager, was on staff, though on leave during the time of the fire. What she remembers about the fire is that it was not particularly fast, nor was there a widespread fear that it was going to burn down all of Philmont.

"One thing I do remember is when the fire was getting so close to Ponil. I remember the pit in my stomach and the tears, and thinking this could really take away Philmont's beginning."

Ponil is historically significant because it served as the original Base Camp for Scouts. It was called Five Points at the time.

The fire did not hit Ponil however, though the damage is visible there and throughout the North Country.

According to the Philmont Field Guide, of the 92,000 acres in the burn zone, approximately one third was "totally burned – every tree and shrub."

About one third was lightly to moderately burned and roughly another one third was spared due to high winds causing the fire to leap over

moist valleys. According to the field guide, several trail and staff camps are located in the spared areas.

Of those 92,000 acres, 28,000 acres were on Philmont property, while 25,000 acres were on the Valle Vidal Unit of the Carson National Forest. The fire started in a storm on June 2, and was contained by June 17, according to the field guide.

"Everyone got excited about the rain that was coming," O'Neill said. "And it was in that storm that the lightning strikes hit that started the fire."

Once it became evident there was a major fire on Philmont property, to O'Neill, the most amazing part was Logistics.

"The most amazing thing was to see the modified Logistics operation. People worked really hard all night, and the department continued to get crews on treks."

Logistics was not the only group with an impressive operation to combat the fire.

"I remember all the fire crews that were gathering down around the Maverick Ranch Rodeo area, and they were gathering all the helicopters and vehicles and people down there. That was really cool to see," O'Neill said.

With all the firefighters working to combat the fire, it was contained in 15 days. Once it was completely out, Philmont used the fire as an opportunity to teach Scouts and staff

about fire rehabilitation.

The natural consequences of the fire included severe mudslides and eradicating some fish populations in the Ponil Creek, but it offered Philmont a chance to teach Scouts how to approach a severely burned forest, re-vegetate it, and reduce flash floods sweeping through and to make it safer.

"I remember the fire rehabilitation crews going in there afterwards and Philmont using the fire as an opportunity to teach about wildfires and their impact," said O'Neill. "I remember the educational impact from the fire."

As big as the fire was, it has not come as close to ruining Philmont structures as other fires. To O'Neill, the Casa Fire in 2006 was scarier, as that came within feet of Motor Pool.

"With the Ponil [Complex] Fire, sure, you saw the signs of it every day, but you didn't see the fire going across the land like you could with the Casa Fire," O'Neill said.

The Ponil Complex Fire has certainly left its impression on people though.

"With each new fire, it does make you wonder if it will be New Mexico's new biggest fire," said O'Neill. "These fires come, and we get everyone out of there and Logistics works hard to move everyone safely, but ultimately it's all Philmont, and we are still doing what we do."

Continued From Page 9, Roving

shorter, but everything gets covered. The instructors are encouraged to ... choose locations that really enhance their lessons throughout their trek."

According to Burgess, who was a ROCS participant in 2001, some lessons spread out over the course of several days.

"It might take hours for you to cover a couple of miles between camps only because you are stopping

and talking about every little thing that is peaking their curiosity," Burgess said. "It doesn't take long for the participants to have a lot to add to discussions."

In addition to the 22 lesson

of ROCS curriculum, several guest speakers talk to the ROCS crews while they are on the trail. These guest speakers include specialists within the conservation department such as GIS or the Bear Research. Outside speakers such as people from the U.S. Forest Service also come and talk to the crews.

"Bob Ricklefs, the Ranch Superintendent, has been talking to ROCS crews since the beginning, since the first year in 2000," Associate Director of Conservation for Environmental Education Marc Nutter said. "He has been a favorite guest speaker because of his wealth of experience. He talks about range management, and what goes on at Philmont, and all our different herds. He also touches on water rights which is really interesting in the West to compare it to a lot of our participants come from the East, so they can see that different."

Bringing in specialists in various fields helps participants to become exposed to many career opportunities they may not have known existed.

In addition to having guest speakers, the ROCS treks stand out from other special treks in various ways.

"We do eat delicious meals every night," Jones said. "They do bulk food every night, so they'll eat

a trail meal for breakfast and lunch, and then pretty much every night, at least 19 out of the 20 days they are on trek, they'll cook a meal with fresh ingredients."

They eat meals made of fresh ingredients and carry fresh ingredients when hiking to promote outdoor cooking skill. Both the food and the quality of education stand out on the ROCS treks.

"It is the best classroom, and the emphasis is on student based learning. All the lessons are designed to be fun..."

"I would say from an outsider point of view it is by far one of the most thoroughly planned out and well executed instruction,"

Associate Director of Conservation and OATC Coordinator Robert Fudge said.

Near the end of each ROCS trek, the crew will work on a meadow encroachment conservation project.

"In a nature fire system ... meadows would be maintained and baby trees would die with quick moving fires, so to maintain those meadows and to keep them from being over grown we cut down small trees and shrubs to open up the meadow again because we can't do that with fire," Jones said.

Throughout the course of their Trek each participant will put in a minimum of 16 to 20 conservation work serve hours at Philmont. They conclude their trek with a banquet. They receive a diploma and a map of the work they did on their meadow encroachment project.

Jones said that people may not realize the amount of learning that occurs on the ROCS trek and how much fun it is.

"It is the best classroom, and the emphasis is on student based learning," Jones said. "All the lessons are designed to be fun and memorable and educational. There is no test that we are working towards. The test is the rest of their lives."

Continued From Page 8, Conclave

has given the staff the ability to goof off with Scouts. They chat. They jam out. They inspire. And, occasionally, they compete.

When they do compete, it's in good fun. Sometimes, one of the Scouts will challenge staff to race up the spar poles. When this happens, it's usually Eli, played by Program Counselor Dan Edwards, who accepts the challenge.

"I offer them a prize of bacon if they win, but if the lose they must sing I'm a little teapot at the campfire," said Edwards.

Edwards can scramble up the 25-foot pole in about seven seconds.

"Sometimes he goes up twice when racing crews," said Howland.

A slightly more achievable challenge is the caber toss, which is what the 6-foot long, 30 pound log in front of the cabin is for.

The idea of the caber toss is to throw the log, also known as the caber, as far as possible. If a Scout breaks the record, which is currently set at about 47 feet, the staff will cook the crew a pound of bacon, which has happened a few times this summer.

"Caber toss originated in Scotland," said Howland. "They had a lot of wood sitting around and if you

wanted to be like 'hey, I'm stronger than you' you would go get a caber."

Not excellent caber throwers, the staff usually watches from the porch. From the benches, they play the "peanut gallery," offering encouragement, advice and a good-natured jest or two.

Because the thing about the Crater Lake staff is at the end of the day it is all about the Scouts. They eclipse all the program, interp, music and personal matters.

Because "if we give them anything less than the best, we are not doing our jobs," said Hubbard.

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Jamboree in Review

On July 24, after ten days of activities, the 2013 National Jamboree came to a close. The inaugural event for The Summit Bechtel Reserve saw many Scouts, Scouters, and visitors who came to celebrate Scouting at the quadrennial event.

Participants were able to experience the new high adventure activities that The Summit will be offering in future non-Jamboree years. The zip-lines, canopy tours, skate parks, BMX tracks, and whitewater rafting allowed both Scouts and visitors to see the new branch of BSA high adventure. The 2013 Jamboree was also the first to include Venturers as participants.

Notable visitors to the Jamboree included the Governor of West Virginia and Mike Rowe, and while the President of the United States made neither an appearance nor sent a video message, the Jamboree participants were able to see the King of Sweden, who is a lifelong advocate for Scouting in the international arena.

Weather often disrupted programs during the event. Large speakers throughout the property announced in a booming voice the detection of lightning within 12 miles of The Summit, suspending all area



activities. Low turnout of volunteer staff roles also kept activities from running at full capacity. Members of the shootings sports staff indicated that they had less than one third of the required staff to maximize the capabilities of the facility, and there was talk that the zip-line staff only had enough staff to operate one of the three lines at a time.

Scouts still had fun, though. When programs were not suspended for weather, the activity areas were abuzz with Scouts participating in all they could. And even when the rain had turned the ground into mud, Scouts jumped into the mess to have fun.

The two Philmont ambassadors, Allison Vinson and Sam DeFrees, spent their days speaking with Scouts, Scouters, and visitors at the event about Philmont. Their display included the standard items

Continued on page 16, Jamboree

Issue 8 Sudoku Answers

Easy

4	6	5	9	3	7	2	1	8
8	3	2	1	6	5	4	9	7
1	9	7	8	2	4	5	3	6
5	8	6	3	4	1	7	2	9
9	2	4	5	7	6	3	8	1
7	1	3	2	8	9	6	5	4
3	7	8	4	1	2	9	6	5
6	5	1	7	9	3	8	4	2
2	4	9	6	5	8	1	7	3

Medium

7	8	6	5	2	3	9	1	4
1	9	3	8	6	4	2	5	7
2	5	4	7	9	1	3	8	6
3	4	9	1	5	8	6	7	2
5	6	7	3	4	2	1	9	8
8	1	2	9	7	6	4	3	5
9	2	1	4	8	7	5	6	3
6	3	8	2	1	5	7	4	9
4	7	5	6	3	9	8	2	1

Difficult

3	8	7	1	9	4	5	6	2
5	1	4	2	7	6	3	8	9
6	2	9	5	3	8	7	1	4
1	6	2	4	8	3	9	7	5
8	9	5	7	1	2	4	3	6
7	4	3	6	5	9	8	2	1
4	7	8	9	6	1	2	5	3
9	5	1	3	2	7	6	4	8
2	3	6	8	4	5	1	9	7

Very Difficult

6	9	3	2	7	5	1	8	4
5	4	7	6	1	8	9	3	2
1	2	8	9	3	4	5	7	6
4	8	2	5	6	1	7	9	3
7	5	9	8	4	3	6	2	1
3	1	6	7	2	9	8	4	5
8	6	1	4	9	2	3	5	7
2	7	5	3	8	6	4	1	9
9	3	4	1	5	7	2	6	8

The Philmont Museum-Seton Memorial Library's featuring:

The Gift of Inspiration (see the dramatic artistic influence Philmont has had on former Staff members)

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Santa Fe Trail.

Seven miles south of the Philmont Museum, Philmont is located 4 miles south of Cimarron Hwy 21 • Call 575-376-1136 for tour information.

Continued From Page 14, Jamboree

in a backpack, both the new and old Phil-tents, trail food, maps, and promotional material. They asked visitors to determine which camps were back country favorites, and found music and horse camps led the way in popularity.

Allison and Sam also spent a significant amount of their time

promoting the individual trek opportunities that Philmont offers during the summer season as well as the second season opportunities. Training opportunities at the Philmont Training Center were also a common topic of conversation.

Allison and Sam ended their time at the Summit on July 25th.

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Chess Squares

Ingredients

- 1 Package of Yellow cake mix
- 1 stick of butter softened
- 1 egg slightly beaten
- 1 box powders sugar, one pound
- 3 eggs slightly beaten
- 8 oz. cream cheese softened

Directions

1. Combine cake mix, butter and one egg and place into a 9 x 13 pan.
2. Mix sugar, eggs and cream cheese and pour on the crust mixture.
3. Bake at 350 degrees F for 35 to 40 minutes or until golden brown.

Reviews for Chess Squares

“Good taste. Not over powering with lemon and good crisp texture. Would eat again.”
—Daniel, Ranger

“It was pretty good. The crust was the best part.” —Josh, Ranger

“It’s amazing. I’d want to make this at Christmas for my family.” —Ryan, Health Lodge

Bacon-Wrapped Cheddar Egg Bites

Ingredients

- 6 -9 eggs
- 12 slices bacon
- 1 cup cheese (I prefer cheddar, but you choose)
- 1 cup meat (if you want more of a filling)
- 1 cup vegetables (if you want more of a filling)

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375.
2. Spray muffin tin.
3. Line each spot with bacon around the edges.
4. Whip all eggs.
5. Mix in cheese and other desired toppings.
6. Evenly pour the egg mix into each spot, filling about 1/2 way (6 eggs for a flatter muffin) or 3/4 way (9 eggs for a taller muffin).
7. Bake about 25 minutes or until bacon is cooked.
8. Pop out and enjoy!

Banana Bread

Ingredients

- 3 or 4 ripe bananas, smashed
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1 cup sugar (can easily reduce to 3/4 cup)
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- Pinch of salt
- 1 1/2 cups of all-purpose flour

Directions

1. No need for a mixer for this recipe. Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C). With a wooden spoon, mix butter into the mashed bananas in a large mixing bowl.
2. Mix in the sugar, egg, and vanilla.
3. Sprinkle the baking soda and salt over the mixture and mix in. Add the flour last, mix.
4. Pour mixture into a buttered 4x8 inch loaf pan.
5. Bake for 1 hour. Cool on a rack.
6. Remove from pan and slice to serve.

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Arts & Entertainment

Safica: Theron Pledges in Help in AIDS Fight

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) -- Actress Charlize Theron has pledged her support in the campaign against AIDS during a meeting with South African President Jacob Zuma.

Theron, an ambassador for the United Nations program on AIDS, met Zuma in Pretoria on Monday to discuss the fight against AIDS in South Africa and across the continent.

The South Africa-born actress says the world has the ability to usher in "an AIDS-free generation," and that the goal can become a reality with strong leadership like that displayed by Zuma.

According to UNAIDS, South Africa has reduced the number of new HIV infections by 12 percent in the last two years. Last year, more than 8 million HIV tests were done. However, South Africa wants citizens to get tested at least once a year.

'Hobbit' Sequels Wrap up Filming in New Zealand

Associate Press

SYDNEY (AP) -- Peter Jackson has wrapped up filming "The Hobbit" trilogy and shared pictures of his last day on the set with his Facebook fans.

The New Zealand filmmaker provided a steady stream of updates and photos from the set of the final film, "The Hobbit: There And Back Again," on Friday. The second film, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug," will be released in December, and the finale appears in 2014.

The director posted pictures of dwarves, crew members and actor Martin Freeman, who plays the protagonist, hobbit Bilbo Baggins. The photo updates began and ended with pictures of Jackson's cat, Mr. Smudge. The final photo shows the director and feline cuddling, along with the caption: "A long day. A great day. Thank you all for being part of it! Now for some sleep!"

Angelina Jolie Speaks out Against Rape in War

By Mari Yamaguchi
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) -- Movie star and director Angelina Jolie urged a Japanese audience Monday to join her fight to stop sexual violence in war zones.

Jolie said she hoped "In the Land of Blood and Honey," her first film as writer and director, would inspire viewers to think about rape in war.

In April, the Group of Eight leaders agreed to work to end rape and sexual violence in conflict and the United Nations Security Council adopted text urging sanctions against perpetrators of sexual violence during armed conflict.

"This is just a beginning," she said. "Our aim must be to shatter impunity, so that rape can no longer be used as a weapon of war anywhere in the world as it was in Bosnia, and as it is today from Congo to Syria."

Jolie, who serves as special envoy for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, was speaking at a special screening event Monday at the U.N. University in Tokyo, as part of her campaign launched with British Foreign Secretary William Hague.

Jolie said she hoped her film would inspire the Japanese viewers to think further about the problem and take action, just as the campaign had taken her across the globe.

"When I started down the road, making this film, I thought only of telling a story and doing my best to try to give a voice to survivors," she said. "But today I am here not only as a director, but as a campaigner, and a part of a global effort that is growing every day."

Japan is no stranger to sexual violence at war. The country still has problems fully coming to terms with what its militarist government did to hundreds of thousands of Asian women before and during World War II.

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World News

Mideast Talks to Resume Amid Deep Skepticism

By Karin Laub and Ian Deitch
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) -- Israeli and Palestinian teams flew to Washington on Monday to end five years of diplomatic stalemate and prepare for a new round of Mideast peace talks, though optimism was in short supply after two decades of failed attempts to reach a deal.

The resumption of talks was made possible by a decision by Israel's Cabinet on Sunday to free 104 long-held Palestinian prisoners in four stages, linked to progress in talks. The release was part of an agreement brokered early this month by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to bring the sides back to the negotiating table.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has been reluctant to negotiate with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, fearing the hard-line Israeli leader will reject what the Palestinians consider minimal territorial demands.

The Palestinians want a state in the West Bank, Gaza and east Jerusalem, territories Israel captured in 1967, but have accepted the principle of limited land swaps to allow Israel to annex some of the dozens of settlements it has built on war-won lands.

Pope Francis Says He Won't Judge Gay Priests

Nicole Winfield
Associated Press

ABOARD THE PAPAL AIRCRAFT (AP) -- Pope Francis reached out to gays, saying he won't judge priests for their sexual orientation in a remarkably open and wide-ranging news conference Monday as he returned from his first foreign trip.

"If someone is gay and he searches for the Lord and has good will, who am I to judge?" Francis asked. "We shouldn't marginalize people for this. They must be integrated into society."

Estimate of French Diamond Heist Raised to \$136M

By Jamey Keaten
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) -- A lone man wearing gloves, a cap, and a scarf to mask his face sneaked into a diamond show in a luxury Cannes hotel and made off with some \$136 million of loot, a French state prosecutor said Monday - more than twice the initial estimated take from the weekend hold-up.

Police had previously said Sunday's theft at the Carlton Intercontinental Hotel had netted (EURO)40 million (\$53 million) worth of treasure - even at that level, one of biggest jewelry heists in recent years. Reached by The Associated Press, Philippe Vique, an assistant prosecutor in the Riviera town of Grasse, said the Dubai-based organizer of the diamond show had since raised the value based on a more complete inventory.

Describing a canny - if quick and logistically simple - break-in, Vique said the suspect broke in through French doors at the hotel that open out onto Cannes' famed Croisette, held up the participants of the show with a handgun, then fled on foot. The hold-up itself took place in the space of about a minute, and with three private security guards, two vendors and a manager of the sale-exhibit on hand, he said.

Bus Crash in Southern Italy Kills 38 People

By Frances D'Emilio
Associated Press

ROME (AP) -- An Italian tour bus plowed through cars, crashed through the side wall of a highway bridge and plunged into a ravine, killing at least 38 people, authorities said Monday.

Rescuers wielding electric saws cut through the twisted wreckage of the bus looking for survivors overnight, and state radio quoted a local police chief as saying the bus driver was among the dead.

2nd Body Found in NY River Where Best Man Fell In

By Jim Fitzgerald
Associated Press

PIERMONT, N.Y. (AP) -- A day after a bride-to-be was pulled dead from the Hudson River, the body of her fiance's best man was found a mile downstream Sunday, the second victim of a nighttime crash involving a speedboat and a barge north of New York City.

The deadly collision left the groom-to-be grieving for his intended and his best friend, while facing surgery for his own injuries as another friend is charged with manslaughter - two weeks before the wedding day.

"I don't think you can put words to what we have to tell these families," Rockland County Sheriff Louis Falco said as he announced that a body believed to be that of Mark Lennon, 30, the best man, was found Sunday morning.

Hawaii Braces for Rain, Wind from Tropical Storm

By Oskar Garcia
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) -- Authorities in Hawaii have opened emergency shelters to prepare for a tropical storm that's expected to bring up to 15 inches of rain and sustained winds of 50 mph.

The National Weather Service says Tropical Storm Flossie has weakened over the past six hours but will remain a significant threat for up to three days.

The storm was about 160 miles east of Hilo Monday morning. It's moving west at about 16 mph.

The tropical storm is expected to hit the Big Island by midday, bringing 6 to 10 inches of rain in many areas and up to 15 inches in others. Eighteen-foot waves also are possible.

Eight emergency shelters have opened.

Ariel Castro's Son Says Life Sentence 'Appropriate'

Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) -- The son of the Cleveland man who admitted kidnapping, raping and enslaving three women for about a decade said Monday his father belongs in prison for the rest of his life. In an interview on NBC's "Today" show, Anthony Castro also said he has nothing to say to his father, Ariel Castro, and will not visit him in prison.

Fifty-three-year-old Ariel Castro is expected to be sentenced Thursday to life in prison plus 1,000 years after pleading guilty last week to 937 counts in a deal that spared him the death penalty.

"I think it's the best possible sentence," Anthony Castro said. "I think if he really can't control his impulses and he really doesn't have any value for human life the way this case has shown, then behind bars is where he belongs for the rest of his life."

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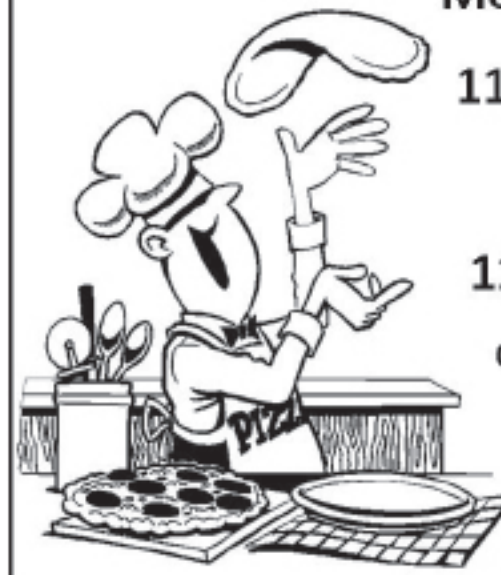
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Sports

Brandt Snedeker Wins Canadian Open

Associated Press

OAKVILLE, Ontario (AP) -- Zoe Olivia Mahan can expect something special from Brandt Snedeker.

Snedeker won the Canadian Open on Sunday, a day after Hunter Mahan withdrew with the lead before the third round when his wife went into labor. Kandi Mahan gave birth to daughter Zoe Olivia early Sunday in Texas.

"Zoe will be getting a very nice baby gift from me," Snedeker

said. "I can't thank Kandi enough for going into labor early. I don't know if I'd be sitting here if she hadn't. But that is a way more important thing than a golf tournament. I missed a golf tournament when my first was born, and it was the best decision I ever made. I'm sure Hunter would say the same thing."

Snedeker closed with 2-under 70 for a three-stroke victory.

Snedeker finished at 16-under 272. The six-time PGA Tour winner also won the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am in February.

American League

AL East	W	L	GB
Boston	63	43	-
Tampa Bay	62	43	.5
Baltimore	58	48	5
NY Yankees	55	50	7.5
Toronto	48	56	14
AL Central			
Detroit	59	45	-
Cleveland	56	48	3
Kansas City	51	51	7
Minnesota	45	57	13
Chicago Sox	40	62	18
AL West			
Oakland	62	43	-
Texas	56	49	2
Seattle	50	55	11
LA Angels	48	55	13
Houston	35	69	22.5

National League

East	W	L	GB
Atlanta	60	45	-
Washington	52	54	8.5
Philadelphia	49	56	611
NY Mets	46	56	12.5
Miami	40	63	19
Central			
St. Louis	62	40	-
Pittsburgh	61	42	1.5
Cincinnati	59	47	5
Chicago Cubs	48	55	14.5
Milwaukee	43	61	20
West			
LA Dodgers	56	48	-
Arizona	54	51	2.5
Colorado	51	55	6
San Diego	48	58	9
San Francisco	46	58	10

Shea's Quick Goal Gives US 1-0 Victory Over Panama

By Nancy Armour
AP National Writer

CHICAGO (AP) -- U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann likes to describe Brek Shea's style of play as "unpredictable."

Nobody could have predicted this.

Just 42 seconds after coming into the game as a substitute Sunday, Shea scored and his goal in the 69th minute gave the United States a 1-0 victory over Panama and the CONCACAF Gold Cup title. It is the fifth Gold Cup title for the Americans, but their first since 2007. It also is the first international title as a coach for Jurgen Klinsmann, who won the 1990 World Cup and 1996 European Championship with Germany.

"I was there just to put it away," Shea said.

This was the 11th straight victory for the Americans, four more than their previous record, and they likely will leapfrog Mexico as the best team from the North and Central America and Caribbean region when the next FIFA rankings come out Aug. 8.


Is He Coming Back? Phelps Vague About Future

By Paul Newberry
AP National Writer

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) -- Michael Phelps keeps saying he has no plans for a swimming comeback. Yet he's leaving the door open to change his mind in time for the 2016 Olympics.

As Phelps put it, "I don't know what I'm doing tomorrow."

Phelps spoke Monday in Barcelona to The Associated Press and other international media organizations in a series of one-on-one interviews set up by his sponsor, Speedo. While Phelps quickly shot down questions about whether he's done any clandestine training for a possible comeback, he wasn't as adamant as he's been in the past about his swimming career ending for good at last summer's London Olympics.



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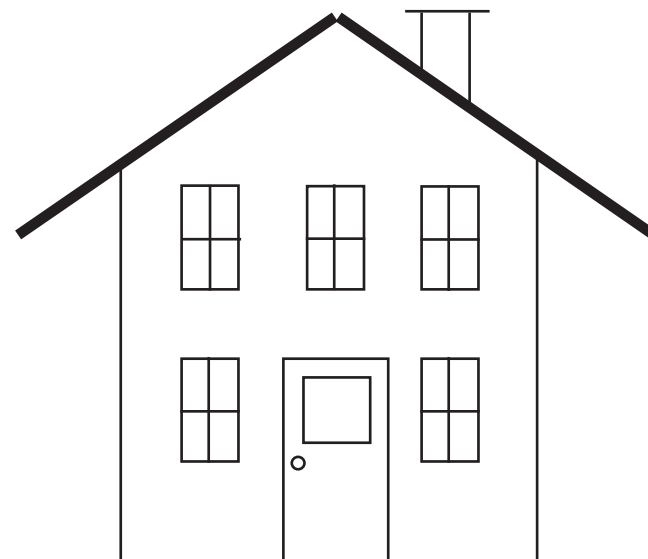
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EASY

				6	9		3	7
7					4	5		
	3		1				6	
2						1		
9		3	7		6	2		4
		5						6
	2				5		1	
		1	6					2
8	7		4	1				

MEDIUM

2			4			8	9	
8								
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	9			6			7	
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4	1			3				
								3
	6	9			7			4

DIFFICULT

4					8		7	
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8		6				4		
	4				1	8		7
3		1	9				2	
		7				1		5
		8	1	4		7		
	5		7					6

VERY DIFFICULT

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	8				1		9	
			5	7	4			
		6					8	5
7		8				1		6
3	1					7		
			4	6	5			
	7		3				1	
2			1					

Sudoku Instructions: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (no repeats).

Philmont Photo Contest Winners



Black and White First Place: "Wheels of Santa Fe" STEVE HENTZELMAN/SECURITY



Storms and Rainbows First Place: "After the Storm" TUCKER PRESCOTT/RANGER



Flowers and Plants First Place: "Cactus" LYNN DECAPO/TOTT



Humor First Place: "Itch" LYNN DECAPO/TOTT



Sunrise and Sunsets First Place: "Cloud Cover" CHRIS NELSON/RANGER



Porch View First Place: "Misty Silence" LUKE WAJROWSKI/RANGER



Camper Activity First Place: "Panning Memories" CONNOR SPURR/NPS



Digital Creations First Place: "Ring Trails" DAVID DANKER/RING PLACE



Wildlife and Best in Show First Place: "Peek-a-boo" LUCAS KOCH/MIRANDA

Staff Activity

- 1st place: Kaitlyn Chaballa - NPS, "Sparks Flying"
- 2nd place: Tucker Prescott - Ranger, "Coming Home"
- 3rd place: Connor Hanlon - TOTT, "Staff on Mesa"

Storms and Rainbows

- 1st place: Tucker Prescott - Ranger, "After the Storm"
- 2nd place: Jacob Lieber - Ranger, "Rainbow over Miranda"
- 3rd place: Michael Dzubin - Chaplain, "Double Rainbow"

Sunrise and Sunsets

- 1st place: Chris Nelson - Ranger, "Cloud Cover"
- 2nd place: Nick Schenk - Activities, "Carson and Phillie Silhouette"
- 3rd place: Cassidy Johnson - NPS, "Villa Twilight"

Wildlife

- 1st place: Lucas Koch - Miranda, "Peek-a-boo"
- 2nd place: Whitney Zerr - Ranch Department, "Siblings"
- 3rd place: Kaitlyn Chaballa - NPS, "Stampede"



Staff Activity and Best in Show Third Place: "Sparks Flying" KAITLYN CHABALLA/NPS

Best in Show

- 1st place: Lucas Koch - Miranda, "Peek-a-boo"
- 2nd place: Skyler Trieu - Conservation, "Just East of French Henry"
- 3rd place: Kaitlyn Chaballa - NPS, "Sparks Flying"

Black and White

- 1st place: Steve Hentzelman - Security, "Wheels of the Santa Fe"
- 2nd place: Alec Gunn - CHQ Maintenance, "Light the Way"
- 3rd place: Tucker Prescott - Ranger, "Morning Rim Light"

Camper Activity

- 1st place: Connor Spurr - NPS, "Panning Memories"
- 2nd place: Justin Kernes - Sawmill, "Burro Race"
- 3rd place: Michael Dzubin - Chaplain, "Scout in the Ring"

Digital Creations

- 1st place: David Danker - Ring Place, "Ring Trails"
- 2nd place: Kaitlyn Chaballa - NPS, "Falling Off"
- 3rd place: Lynn DeCapo - TOTT, "Polinators"



Landscape and Best in Show Second Place: "Just East of French Henry" SKYLER TRIEU/CONS

Flowers and Plants

- 1st place: Lynn DeCapo - TOTT, "Cactus"
- 2nd place: Lynn DeCapo - TOTT, "Polination"
- 3rd place: Skyler Trieu - Conservation, "Cactus Flowers"

Humor

- 1st place: Lynn DeCapo - Humor, "Itch"
- 2nd place: Michael Dzubin - Chaplain, "Reaching the Finish Line"
- 3rd place: Kaitlyn Chaballa - NPS, "Little Cowboy"

Landscape

- 1st place: Skyler Trieu - Conservation, "Just East of French Henry"
- 2nd place: Chris Nelson - Ranger, "Flow"
- 3rd place: Tucker Prescott - "Campos Heck"

Porch View

- 1st place: Luke Wajrowski - Ranger, "Misty Silence"
- 2nd place: Cameron Scoman - PTC Group Leader, "Porch View"
- 3rd place: Cassidy Johnson - NPS, "Porch Music"

See all photos online in a special online edition of photo winners at philmontscoutranch.org