

PHILNEWS

JULY 15TH, 2016

ISSUE SIX



Skyler Ballard/PhilNews

PhilKids: Keeping Philmont in the family

Suzannah Evans

Staff Writer

Philmont has over 1,000 staff members every summer. Most of these staff members are young, college age students. Many that come here have an adventurous side and are excited to take on life's challenges. Because of this like-mindedness, many lifelong friendships and even romantic relationships begin here. There have even been marriages throughout the years, and now, from these "Phil-Couples" come some of this year's staff members.

Kara Stevens was a Ranger and JJ Stevens worked in the Backcountry in the early 1990's.

Kara was looking for someone to tell her some ghost stories. At the time, JJ was known for telling good ghost stories. She approached him one day,

"Hi, I hear you know some good ghost stories," she said.

He responded, "Would you like to hear some?"

They became friends, and the rest is history. Their son, Bryce is working his first summer here in the Dining Hall.

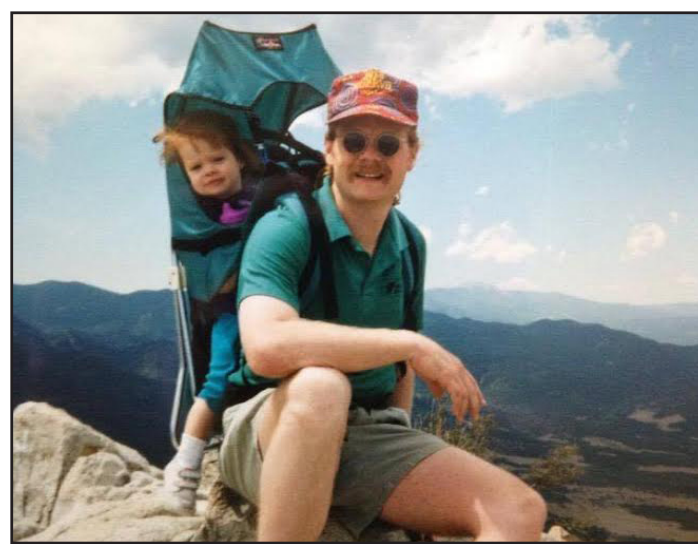
Jerry and Becky Bricker met at the Fourth of July Dance in 1983. Jerry worked in the Conservation Department. Becky was a Villa Philmonte Tour Guide. The Brickers live in Lincoln, Nebraska. They have two sons, Austin and



Top left: Bryce and JJ Stevens stand outside a cabin at Fish Camp.

Bottom left: Joel Bricker holds a photo of his parents, Jerry and Becky Bricker Lex Selig/PhilNews

Joel. Austin worked in the Dining Hall last year and Joel is a first



Top right: Suzannah Evans smiles with a photo of her parents wearing their Philmont uniforms. Lex Selig/PhilNews

Bottom right: Jessi Kauffman rides along with her dad, Jon Kauffman

Jon Kauffmann worked at Philmont from 1986-1993. He started out as a Ranger and

worked as a Program Counselor in the early 1990's. He spent his last

year at Philmont as Camp Director of Seally Canyon. His future wife, Janine worked in a variety of backcountry camps, including Beaubien and Ponil. She worked at Philmont from 1988-1993. The two met in the middle of their time here. During their time at Philmont, the two had Philmont nicknames. "Jeneric" for Jon Eric and "J9" for Janine.

Their daughter, Jessi, has worked at Philmont since 2013 in the Tooth of Time Traders and then at Abreu and Dean Cow. She grew up in Colorado with her parents' Philmont friends who are all still close.

Steve and Elaine (Hill) Evans worked as Rangers in the early 1990s. In 1990, the two were caught in a torrential rainstorm. Steve, who is 6'7", was wearing head-to-toe blue rain gear. Elaine thought it was humorous.

"Why, hello there, Papa Smurf," she said.

Apparently, Steve thought she was flirting, but as Elaine later explained, "that's just the proper way to greet a Smurf."

They married in 1994 and raised their kids with countless Philmont Stories. The couple still lives out West and have ten children. Their oldest, Suzannah, is on staff this year and their older sons, Jack and Sam returned with Steve on Trek in late June.

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Videographer

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July 15-August 4

Friday, 15	Saturday, 16	Sunday, 17	Monday, 18	Tuesday, 19	Wednesday, 20	Thursday, 21
3 p.m. Leila Knox Book Signing- Philmont Museum	5 p.m. PhilNews Deadline Hungry Hungry Hippos	Olympic Event		7:30 p.m. Full Moon Williams Lake Hike 8 p.m. Open Mic Night-	9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Haircuts in SSSAC (\$15) Brat Day!	Taos Plaza Live Staff photo contest closes 11:59 p.m.
Friday, 22	Saturday, 23	Sunday, 24	Monday, 25	Tuesday, 26	Wednesday, 27	Thursday, 28
5:30 p.m. Philmont 5K- Front of SSSAC Recruiting & Resume Workshop Fiesta de Taos	Fiesta de Taos	Fiesta de Taos	Christmas in July Deadline for Fall Staff Applications	PTC Western Night	9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Haircuts in SSSAC (\$15) Recruiting & Resume Workshop	Movie Night Taos Plaza Live 7 p.m. Federal Job Opportunities- HCC
Friday, 29	Saturday, 30	Sunday, 31	Monday, 1	Tuesday, 2	Wednesday, 3	Thursday, 4
Olympic Event Contra Dancing	Brat Day! Recruiting & Resume Workshop	Olympic Event 8 p.m. Staff photo contest awards		Winter Job Fair	Recruiting & Resume Workshop Winter Job Fair	

Event Descriptions

Activities Staff

Taos Plaza Live

A summer concert series, unsurprisingly located in the Taos Plaza. Throughout the summer, there is a free concert every Thursday night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Alabama Shakes

Playing at Kit Carson Park in Taos on August 6. Tickets: \$60 in advance, \$65 day of; Doors: 6:30 p.m.; Show: 7:30 p.m.

Taos Pueblo Pow Wow

Indian Country is made up of many tribal nations, bands, villages, and pueblos, each with their own traditional tribal beliefs and practices. A pow wow is the common fiber which draws Native American people together. It is a time for sharing with old friends and making new friends; a time for singing and dancing. It is a time

for trading; trading craft goods and trading songs.

Fiesta de Taos

As they have for centuries, the good people of Taos celebrate the Feast of St. Anne and St. James. The annual event, popularly referred to as "The Taos Fiestas," allows the local population to put aside their labor for two days and bask in the leisure of the holy days.

Philmont 5k

Come and compete in Philmont's summer 5K. The race will start at the SSSAC, down to the philmont museum, through PTC, down to Admin/Cito Road then return to the SSSAC for the finish. Times will be recorded and top 3 finishers will receive various prizes. Refreshments and fruit will be provided throughout the race. The race will begin promptly at 5:30 in front of the Silver Sage Staff Activities enter.

Event Highlight

Full Moon Williams Lake Hike

Taos Ski Valley is a hiker's paradise. There are many hiking trails to suit all abilities - from moderate 4 mile hikes to the challenge of tackling the 16 mile hike to Wheeler Peak. Guided hikes are available with knowledgeable guides. On a guided hike you will learn about the flora and fauna, herbs, medicinal plants and history of this beautiful area. Hikers meet at Hiker Parking at 7:30 p.m. If you would like any further information, please call (575)-776-1413

Leila Knox Book Signing

The Philmont Museum will be hosting a book presentation on Friday, July 15 at 3 p.m. Leila Moss Knox, Ernest Thompson Seton's niece will be discussing her book, *The Storyteller*. She will share how stories from her own life are reflected in her book. There will be a book signing event as well. Some of the PTC children's groups will be at the museum to listen to Miss Knox, and anyone else who is interested is invited to attend.

Autumn employment

Eric Martinez

Associate Director of Program

Greetings staff! As our summer approaches the midway point you may be looking for your next career step. If you don't want to leave the 87714 and want to extend your contract until August 31, we are hiring 15 additional staff to assist in our clean-up and

takedown of Base Camp. Let me (Eric Martinez) know if you are interested in helping with this operation and we will add you to the list. If you have even more flexibility in your employment schedule past August 31, there is another great opportunity for you: autumn employment at Philmont.

Continued on page 4

Russell's Sundries

"For all the little things you forgot to pack."

31083 Highway 64
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575-376-2502

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Professional Scouting Reception

July 21st - 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Villa Philmonte Pool Area

RSVP to Eric Martinez if interested in attending

Philmont Olympics

Activities Staff

Olympics Report, Conservation Edition

Two of the four events of the Philmont Olympics have now passed with Base Camp still in the lead. Coming in to the most recent event, Base was leading with seven points, Backcountry was close behind with four, and Conservation and the Rangers were bringing up the rear with two and one respectively. Now the Conservation Tetrathlon is over, having combined skills in sledging, digging, and rock bar use, and ending in an all-out sprint with loaded packs. Despite a last minute surge by the Base Camp team, Conservation ended up ahead after four competitions. Sadly the Backcountry and Ranger departments were unrepresented in the event and therefore both take fourth place points. The standings are now as follows.

- Base Camp- 11 points
- Conservation- 9 points
- Backcountry-5 points
- Rangers- 2 points

But with two events remaining and scores in the final event being doubled, only 40% of the points have been awarded and it is still anyone's game. Even the Rangers, currently in last place, would be guaranteed to win it all with a first place finish in the final two events, the Backcountry Triathlon and the Ranger Marathon Relay.

Backcountry Triathlon, July 17

The Backcountry department will be hosting the third of the Philmont Olympics events on Sunday, July 17. The triathlon will test each department's proficiency in programs from Whiteman Vega to Clear Creek to Miner's Park.

This one-person event will start behind the Activity Center, where each athlete will have to make a trip around the bouldering wall then climb on a bike, make their way to the range, and show off their skill with tomahawks. The starts will be staggered, and the fastest time will win. If you are interested in competing for the glory of your department, speak with your liaison.

- Backcountry and Horse Department-Jimmy Fritze (Backcountry Manager)
- Base Camp and PTC-Savannah Moore (Security)
- Conservation- Nathan Coney (ADC for Conservationists)
- Rangers- Will Suggs (Associate Chief Ranger)

Continued from page one, PhilKids: Keeping Philmont in the family

In 1983, Angela Foster was living at Base Camp with her parents who worked the summers at Philmont. One day, she and a Chaplain's Daughter went on a day hike to Urraca. As they were hanging out in the cabin at Urraca, they heard someone yell for an axe.

"So she grabbed an axe and took it to my dad and he killed a rattlesnake, that's how they met," said Sarah Hadaway, daughter of Lee and Angela Hadaway.

The Hadaways started dating in 1987 when Lee was Camp Director at Clark's Fork and Angela was a Ranger. They got engaged in the summer of 1990 when he was Camp Director of Miranda and she was working in News and Informations Services. That winter, they were married.

The Hadaways now live in Trinidad, Colorado, or as their daughter, Rachel, jokes, "the backyard of Philmont." They have two daughters, and a son. Rachel and Sarah have worked at Philmont for 5 and 3 years, respectively. This year, Rachel is Camp Director at Chase Ranch and Sarah is a Program Counselor at Head of Dean. Their younger brother, David, is coming out on his first Trek in mid-July and will be doing a STEM Trek.

Being third generation Philmont staff, some might assume that Rachel and Sarah were forced to be on staff. However, that is not the case.

"I think we both just knew that we were going to be here. I'm not here because I'm third generation, I'm here because I'm me," said Rachel.

Sarah Hadaway is the 12th family member to work at Philmont.

All of the second, or third in the Hadaways' cases, generation staff members have grown up

hearing at least a little bit of what Philmont meant to their parents. The connection that many people feel to Philmont as staff members can only be stronger for those whose parents met here.

"It's mind boggling to walk past the Ranger Office and realize that that was where this all began," said Suzannah Evans. "They had no idea that I would be working here almost thirty years later."






Sisters Rachel, right, and Sarah Hadaway, left, hold a photo of their parents Lee and Angela Hadaway taken at Miranda. Lex Selig/PhilNews

Tour the Villa Philmont!!

16 Guided Tours a Day.
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Make your reservation at the Philmont Museum-Seton Library!

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12:30—4:30 pm
(The 11:00 am tour is often abbreviated to accommodate lunch time.)

Summer Chapel services every night 7 p.m.

Held at Camping Headquarters, the following services are offered:

Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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Your best makes a difference!

Tim Rosseisen
Vice President of Service
Philmont Staff Association



As all of you who work on staff know, you have one of the best jobs any young adult could ever ask for. You represent the finest in Scouting. With that comes great responsibilities.

As you know, some days can be the greatest challenge you could ever have at a Scout camp or that 'great big pile of Rocks' as Mark Anderson likes to call it.

You might even be working at Dean Cow where the temperatures can get very hot on the rocks belaying campers all day, and you may be at your wit's end in that climate. But I challenge you to take your time to do your best with that 14-year-old camper who is also being challenged and who is scared of what he is doing. Climbing up that sandstone wall with a rope belaying him might be the hardest challenge he has had in his 14 years.

The time you take to help that youth make it to the top of that climbing ledge can and will make all the difference in the world as that Scout overcomes that challenge. He will have amazing pride in himself, and it just might make him more successful in his years to come. I know because that

was me as a camper in 1978 when I was 14.

Or maybe you have been out since 4 a.m. in the pasture at Beaubien because the horses got loose and you have an 8 a.m. trail ride and it is now almost 5 p.m. and you are beat because you just unsaddled 26 horses in a hail storm, but there is a Scout who is at the gate asking you questions about the horse program and what its like to work in the Horse Department. Take your time. That person just might be the Head Horseman one day at Beaubien because you took the time and went above and beyond. Because I know that person, and he did.

Or you are the Chief Ranger

or any Ranger, and you take time to talk to some Scouts around Logistics and ask where they are from and what places they are going. They ask you about working at Philmont, and you tell them you started in the Dining Hall serving food. Then they realize that they can do that and might want to work at Philmont the next year. I know that person too, and he started in the Dining Hall and went on to become the Chief Ranger.

My challenge to you is do your best. The difference you make this summer can have life changing effects on people you might never expect.

Have fun and a great summer!

Continued from page 2: Autumn employment

Every fall, Philmont operates autumn programs to support our summer operations and to continue delivering wilderness and learning adventures that last a lifetime in a season that few participants get to experience. In our autumn hiring we have positions in the Autumn Adventure, Backcountry Warehouse, Chase Ranch, Commissary, Conservation, Dining Hall, Grounds, Guest Services/Housekeeping, Maintenance, Merchandise Warehouse, Museum, News and Photo Services, PASS/PAW, Philmont Training Center, Rayado/Kit Carson, Tooth of Time Traders, Villa Philmonte, and Wrangler operations.

Each position has its own responsibility and importance within the close-knit autumn staff and each position is described here:

- Autumn Adventure – The Autumn Adventure Guide leads crews into the Philmont backcountry with custom-made itineraries. They also assist in workday projects and other duties as assigned.
- Backcountry Warehouse – The Backcountry Warehouse Staff inventory, organize, and prepare the Backcountry Warehouse for the following summer.
- Chase Ranch – The Chase Ranch Staff lead tours and assist in the daily maintenance, upkeep, and inventory of the Historic Chase Ranch.
- Commissary – The Commissary Staff responsibilities include completing summer operations, fulfilling food orders, and shipping trail meals to customers.
- Conservation – The Conservation Staff lead projects around the Ranch through forest restoration, work crew, invasive species, STEM, and trail design functions.
- Dining Hall – The Dining Hall Staff are responsible for ensuring all autumn participants are well fed and assisted with their dietary needs.
- Grounds – The Grounds Staff assist in the upkeep of the lawns and grounds of Camping Headquarters and the Philmont Training Center.
- Guest Services/Housekeeping – The Guest Services/Housekeeping Staff assist in customer service to

ensure every participant has clean housing and amenities.

- Maintenance – The Maintenance Staff lead work projects throughout Camping Headquarters, the Philmont Training Center, and across the Ranch to ensure our facility is at peak performance.
 - Merchandise Warehouse – The Merchandise Warehouse Staff assist in inventorying summer equipment and fulfilling orders for Philmont's purchasing operations.
 - Museum – The Museum Staff will help with the relocation of the Philmont Museum to the Hardesty Casa Central while the Seton Memorial Library is renovated.
 - News and Photo Services – The NPS Staff help fulfill promotional material orders and assist in photography and videography for the Ranch.
 - PASS/PAW – The PASS/PAW Instructors lead the Philmont Advisor Skills School and Workshop Program through weekend courses at Philmont and full-day and evening courses in communities across the country.
 - Philmont Training Center – The Philmont Training Center Staff ensure conference participants are taken care of through excellent customer service and program activities such as backcountry tours.
 - Rayado/Kit Carson – The Rayado/Kit Carson Staff facilitate the operation of the Kit Carson Museum at Rayado through living history representation and tours.
 - Tooth of Time Traders – The Tooth of Time Traders Staff assist with retail, order fulfillment, and inventory operations.
 - Villa Philmonte – The Villa Philmonte Staff assist with gardening and tours of the Villa.
 - Wrangler – The Wranglers assist in gathering horses and moving cattle from summer pasture in the mountains to winter pasture in the lower elevations.
- If you are interested in applying for autumn employment at Philmont, submit a Seasonal Staff Application to the personnel desk at Camping Headquarters. Since the selection process is very competitive, an updated resume and cover letter are highly recommended. Applications for fall employment are due by July 25.

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Better than birds-eye

Eleanor Hasenbeck
Staff Writer

At 11,711 feet, it takes a fair amount of huffing and puffing to summit the second tallest peak on the Ranch, Mount Phillips. The mountain, once called Clear Creek Mountain, was renamed in 1960 in honor of Waite Phillips.

“The hike was hard, because it was pretty rocky,” said Jake Young, Crew Leader of 629-X1.

“Totally worth it,” added fellow crew member Jason Simmons.

The boys’ favorite part of the hike was the view. The crew side hiked Phillips on their way to Red Hills trail camp.

Another crew, made up of

members of Troop 10 from Austin, Texas, hiked from Sawmill to the camp at the summit. After one crew member had to return to Base Camp, the remaining trekkers carried more gear and water up the mountain.

“You learn a lot about the people you’re leading and their limits and your limits,” said crew leader Gunner Willie.

For the crews, the view from the summit made it worth it. With views of Angel Fire and the peaks of South Country at Phillip’s false summit and a beautiful sight of Baldy and Wheeler Peak at the tip top, Mt. Phillips provides a better than birds-eye view of the Ranch.



Troop 10 from Austin, TX hikes from Sawmill toward the summit of Mount Phillips on Thursday, July 7, 2016.



Mark McDermott reaches the peak of Mt. Phillips for the second time in his lifetime. McDermott has been on trek at Philmont four times before this trek. Clay Helfrick/PhilNews

LDS Week: A growing tradition

Suzannah Evans
Staff Writer

With a fanfare of festive marching music blaring on loud speakers, LDS Week came to an end. The youth participants that had been on Mountain Trek came marching in after their week-long Trek.

LDS Week hosted families of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. There were programs available for all ages, from babies to adults. While their parents were in meetings and other programs, the children participated in different activities based on their ages.

“I’m first counselor in the state

presidency, so we came together to learn more about our priesthood responsibility... we came here to learn and to be taught,” said Glen Swallow of Bluffdale, Utah.

Swallow was there with his wife and their seven children. Two of the Swallow children participated in the Mountain Trek.

“We went on a hike and had a sacrament meeting up there for our church. We’d hike to one place and they’d have a program set up for you, so there would be different activities you could sign up for, like shooting or horse riding,” said Jaxxon Swallow.

There were also programs available for children who did not participate in the Mountain Trek.

“The C.O.P.E. course was cool cause we all worked together and bonded a little bit,” said Eliza Wilkinson who participated in the Broncos I group.

Wilkinson’s mother was the only member of the family who had previously attended LDS Week.

“I came when I was about 8 with my family,” said Allison Wilkinson.

The whole family enjoyed their time at the Ranch and plans to return.

“I think my favorite part of Philmont was just the grounds. All the grass and the trees, the beauty of it all...” said Allison.

LDS Chaplain Elder Paul

Anderson and his wife, Sister Mary Anderson, were in attendance.

This is Elder Anderson’s second year as Philmont LDS Chaplain.

“My favorite thing about this week, for me, seeing all those kids out on the lawn playing and then seeing the Mountain Trek kids return,” said Anderson.

Anderson also said that new changes to the Mountain Trek have made it more beneficial.

“They changed the way they had the Mountain Trek come in. Those Trekkers got to spend a few minutes with the General Young Men’s President and the General Primary President and share their feelings. That was new this year, and it worked really really well,”

said Anderson.

The LDS church requires members to partake in certain youth activities.

“In the church, we have what we call the Aaronic Priesthood, and the activities side of that is Scouting, so the two work hand in hand together. The young men, 12 and up, have the Aaronic Priesthood, and the Scouting Program is what we choose to participate in various activities, whether it be outdoor activities...or weekly activities,” said Glen Swallow.

LDS Week is an annual event which occurs over two weeks. It is held at the Philmont Training Center each summer.



Father and daughter Alan and Kacey Palmer are wrangled by Blake Palmer and Zack Saez during PTC Western Night on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 during LDS Week. Skyler Ballard/PhilNews



Members of the Latter-day Saints community share a meal at Philmont Training Center on June 28, 2016. The meal followed a parade during the LDS week at Philmont Scout Ranch. Gabriel Scarlett/PhilNews



Brothers are reunited after their 7-day Mountain Trek during PTC’s LDS week. The brothers were gathered back to base on June 30, 2016 by a large gathering of family and friends as they hiked into PTC at the flag poles. Clay Helfrick/PhilNews

Chaplain Bio

Bill McCleery Protestant Chaplain

I have been involved in Scouting since age 8 when I joined the Cub Scouts in my hometown of Lancaster, Ohio. I worked on summer camp staff in the Central Ohio Council (now Simon Kenton) and attended the 50th Anniversary National Jamboree in Colorado Springs, Colorado, as a member of the Region 4 band. I still have a photo of President Eisenhower driving by in a convertible. I was supposed to be playing Hail to the Chief with the band, but instead tucked my trumpet under my arm and took a photo of the President!

After college at The Ohio State University, I attended Princeton Theological Seminary with the intention of becoming a minister. But after two summers as a chaplain at Philmont and completing seminary, I decided instead on a career with the Boy Scouts of America. I started as a District Executive in the Valley Forge Council in Pennsylvania and then became a Field Director in the Bucks County Council. I joined the National staff in North Brunswick, New Jersey

as the Associate Director of the International Division. When the National Office relocated to Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas, I made the move and became Director of Protestant Relationships. I was promoted to Director of Religious Relationships and rounded out my tenure at the National Office as Division Director for Relationships. After serving as Director of Field Service in Valley Forge Council, I was selected as the Scout Executive of the Three Rivers Council in Beaumont, Texas. After 31 years, I retired from the BSA as Endowment Development Director in the Dan Beard Council, Cincinnati, Ohio.

I started a second career as a development officer at my alma mater, The Ohio State University. I directed a capital campaign to build the Ohio 4-H Youth Development Center on the OSU main campus in Columbus. The Center is the first green building on the OSU campus and the first LEED certified building (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) by the US Green Building Council.

I have just retired from my third

career which was doing what I trained to do forty-five years ago. For eight years, I was the part time priest-in-charge of two, small Episcopal congregations in southeastern Ohio, one of which, Church of the Epiphany in Nelsonville, Ohio, serves as the chartered organization for Troop 60.

To me, Philmont truly is God's country. There is a certain mystique that draws people back year after year. The chaplain's job is to help young people see and understand the Philmont trek experience as more than just a physical and mental challenge. It certainly is that, but it is also, and perhaps most importantly, a spiritual growth experience. Young people grow closer to God and each other. The valuable lessons they learn on the trail will last a lifetime. Here in God's country, the Scout Oath and Law come to life. A visitor from another country observed, "In my country there are fields to grow corn...there are fields to grow wheat. But Philmont is a field to grow men and women." I say, "Amen!"

Friendship- Teamwork

Mark Anderson Director of Program

As we reach the middle of the summer, I am reminded of a Chinese proverb that states "Behind an able person there are always other able people." In other words, teamwork is at the heart of all great achievements. The Philmont Scout Ranch Summer of 2016 is a "great achievement".

Through our collective work we continue to provide experiences that make a difference, we deliver "wilderness adventures that last a lifetime."

The team that has been developing over the weeks of the summer is built around friendship.

These friendships are critical! John C. Maxwell in his book "The 360 Degree Leader" shares some

thoughts about the importance of friendships in our team.

Friendships are the foundation of influence. President Abraham Lincoln said, "If you would win a man to your cause, first convince him that you are his sincere friend." Good relationships make influence possible. Throughout the summer each of us are both influencing and being influenced by others. That means that all of us are leading in some areas, while in other areas we are being led. None of us is excluded from being a leader or a follower. When this is done in the context of friendship we are able to create a "great achievement".

Friendship is the framework of success. Theodore Roosevelt said, "The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people." Through

strong friendship we achieve great results. This takes work – we have to respect and listen to each of our co-workers. We have to communicate and share. We have to overcome those bumps in the road that interfere in our working relationships.

Friendship is the shelter against sudden storms. When we have a bad day, who can make you feel better? A friend. When you have to face your fears, who would you rather do it with? A friend. When you fall on your face, who can help pick you up? A friend. Aristotle was right when he said, "True friends are a sure refuge."

As we move toward the remainder of the summer, I would encourage you to continue to work on friendships. Strong friendships will help us with our "great achievement."

Out of Eden Walk essay contest

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting has selected a winner and ten runners-up in its Out of Eden Walk essay contest. The winner will go on an all-expenses paid hike in Central Asia later this year with journalist and National Geographic fellow Paul Salopek.

One member of every crew coming to Philmont this summer was eligible to enter the contest, which asked scouts to use the principles of "slow journalism" to write about walking or hiking experiences.

"Slow journalism means taking the time to observe and record things we might otherwise miss because we're moving too fast," said Mark Schulte, the Pulitzer Center's education director.

Along with his partners at the Pulitzer Center, a nonprofit journalism organization based in Washington, DC, Salopek has called upon Philmont to join him in practicing slow journalism. For the second year, scouts are using blank pages in their Passport Journals to record what they observe along their hikes, sharing these journal entries periodically at their campfires.

This year, the Pulitzer Center sponsored the essay contest, which ran until June 1 and garnered dozens of entries. The winner will join Salopek on his walking route in Asia for a unique hiking experience along the Silk Road.

The ten runners-up will be featured in the PhilNews over the summer, and the winner will be announced in August. The runner-up essays can be read at pulitzercenter.org/philmont

This week's runners-up



Connor Jenkins
Naples, FL

"There is much to be learned through one's own feet and one's own eyes that cannot be learned by any other means."

Connor took "a breath" in his essay, slowing his pace and sharpening his awareness by dismounting from his bike to walk home from school and later trekking 15 miles through trails in Southwest Florida. Read Connor's essay at pulitzercenter.org/philmont



Jonathan James McCutcheon
San Antonio, TX

"The gilded derelict of an eagle murmurs, 'How about that trip to Kapiolani?' or, just as easily, 'But I haven't seen them in fifteen years: we must go,' all while resting beside chain-smoked cigarettes and the worn shards of a rusty lighter."

Jonathan reflected on an old passport, "discarded and abandoned," and wonders how an increasingly home-bound American population will be able to function in a globalized world. Read Jonathan's essay at pulitzercenter.org/philmont

The Ranger Mile: Challenger Point, Colorado

Chip Campbell
Associate Chief Ranger

Mountain wildflowers, open meadows, waterfalls into an alpine lake, bighorn sheep, and, of course, the challenge and reward of climbing one of Colorado's 14,000 ft.+ mountains — climbing Challenger Point offers a little bit of everything, making it one of my favorite hikes to do in Colorado.

The facts: summiting Challenger Point will take you from 8,850 ft. to 14,081 ft. in a little over 6 miles, a total of 5,400 ft. of elevation gain. While it is possible to summit Challenger in one day, I recommend tackling this peak over a two-day span. Setting up a base camp at Willow Lake the night before your summit will truly allow you to make the best of your experience.

This beautiful alpine lake of clear azure water, creeks spilling into it from lofty ledge, has ample camping spots for you to spend the night. Take advantage of the cached canoe or just dip your feet into chilled mountain waters as you enjoy the presence of your friends and wait in anticipation of your early morning summit.

Where is it, and how do you get there? Begin your journey passing through the town of Crestone. Turn right onto Galena Street. This road will soon turn from asphalt to dirt, but a good clearance vehicle should have little trouble.

At the end of the road you will find parking and the trailhead for the Willow Lake trail. This trail will take you up a steep set of switchbacks, over several stream crossings, past an expansive meadow, and will offer you splendid views along the way.

Eventually you will come

through the pass behind which Willow Lake is nestled. Set up camp just below the lake, get an early night's sleep, and prepare for tomorrow's adventure.

In the morning, follow the north shore of the lake, through thick willow, and make your way to the cliffs. Once here, looking over the lake, take a moment to appreciate one of Colorado's most beautiful mountain lakes and settle in, the next leg of the journey is quite steep. The trail will fade as you traverse this difficult terrain.

Transitioning from grassy slopes to rock and talus, your path will follow the rib of rock jutting out from the slope. Slowly, step by step, make your way to the notch



Chip Campbell on the summit of Challenger Point. Matthew Breeding/ Mountain Trek

Coordinator

in the ridge line. As you crest the ridge, the plains of Colorado, including the Great Sand Dunes, will be revealed.

The final summit is upon you: Follow the ridge line out of the notch and soon you will have summited Challenger Point.

This hike is challenging but, if split into two days, is very manageable. For the bold, Kit Carson Mountain is available for a double summit day. Come prepared and you will surely find success and enjoyment on this wonderful Colorado adventure.

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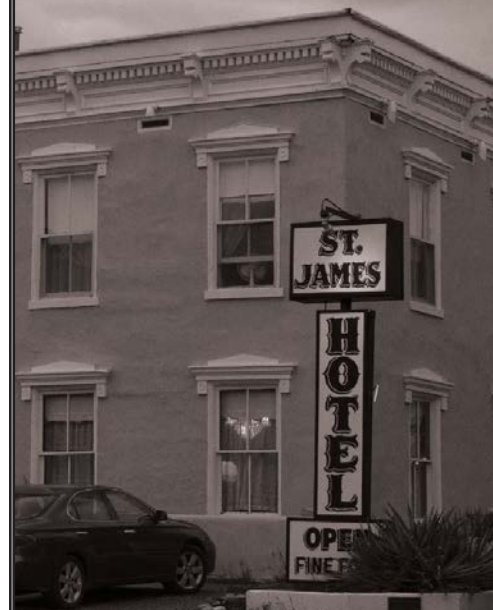


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Helping make Philmont rock

Eleanor Hasenbeck
Staff Writer

At Cypher's Mine, rocks are everything. The camp's main feature, the Contention Mine, is a long, dark hole in the rocks of the mountain. Inside the mine, muckers loaded rocks and a handful of gold ore into carts to be cast away or milled.

Today, a highlight of the mine tour is the fault line where rocks from Mesozoic era (the time when dinosaurs roamed) meet rocks from Cenozoic era (the time they didn't). Geologist Bill Schneider is a visiting geologist at the camp this summer, helping participants understand more about the minerals around them.

Affectionately dubbed "Bill Schnye, the Geo Guy" by Cypher's staff, Schneider explains many of Philmont's rocks and minerals to participants before they begin their mine tour. He is one of about 30 visiting Geologists who volunteer their time at Cypher's

Mine, Baldy Town and French Henry.

The lessons taught by each Geologist at each site are a bit different. At French Henry, where participants can easily see the remains of the stamp mill where gold was separated from the ore, Geologists often focus on that process. At Baldy Town, they hike to the peak and explain what can be seen from the top.

Schneider has been a visiting Geologist for around seven summers. He found the position shortly after retiring from a career in the oil industry, looking for oil in the Gulf of Mexico. He thinks the position can fill a gap in camp staff.

"There's a fair amount of reading behind picking up what happened out here," said Schneider. Staff are often caught up running



Bill Schneider, sits on the porch of the cabin at Cypher's mine early in the morning on July 6th, 2016. Clay Helfrick/PhilNews

program or rehearsing campfires, and they might not know the ins and outs of the geology of an area like the professionals do.

Among Schneider's favorite parts of Philmont are the



Bill Schneider gives a brief talk about the geology before participants tour the abandoned mine. Schneider teaches them about the types of rocks in the mine and the gold content of the ore found along the fault line of the mine's shaft and also touches on some history of these mountains. Skyler Ballard/PhilNews

exploratory pits that dot the Ranch, where miners tried to find ore. In these spots, miners often dug up other rocks, which otherwise would've remained buried beneath

the aspens and pine needles. These rocks from deep below show the land's geologic history, right here on the surface.

A gallopin' good time

Eleanor Hasenbeck
Staff Writer

The horses shuffled in their corrals, as the dust blew and the crowd cheered at the 94th Maverick Club Rodeo on July 4. The rodeo brought together around 400 people, many of them Philmont staff members. Around 24 Wranglers participated in the competition, with the entirety of the Rescue Race being made up of Philmont staff.

"This [rodeo] has been going on since the 20s, and Philmont has been here pretty much that long," said Wrangler RJ Parrott. "There's such a huge tradition at Philmont for horses." Two of Waite Phillips' stipulations in donating Philmont were that the land remain a working ranch and his favorite horse, Gus would be allowed to live out his life on the property.

Parrott said rodeos allow participants to show off the skills they use daily at work with the horses. Events like barrel races and

poles showcase a rider's agility on a horse. Team roping demonstrates how well cowpokes could wrangle a steer on the ranch.

For many Philmont staffers, the Fourth of July event was literally their first rodeo. Many don't have horses at home, so being able to ride Philmont's horses in the rodeo is a much appreciated privilege.

The energy of the arena fed into horses and rider alike. Horses are selected to ride in their rodeo based on their desire and drive to compete. Certain horses are more apt to rodeo than others. Much like people, some enjoy the atmosphere of the arena and the nerves of competition more than others. According to the Wranglers, though, it's hard not to have a good time at the rodeo.

"It's such a community building event," Parrott said. "Even when people are having a rough time, the whole crowd gets up and is cheering for them. They don't catcall. They don't boo. Everybody is there to back you up."



Left: Ponil Horseman Andrew Rankin holds tight out of the chute during the Ranch Bronc event at the Maverick Club Rodeo on the 4th of July in Cimarron, NM. Skyler Ballard/PhilNews



While preparing to ride a bull a woven rope is placed around the shoulders of a bull and wrapped around the hand of the rider. Lex Selig/PhilNews



Below: A steer is wrestled to the ground in the Chute Dogging event during the 94th annual Maverick Club Rodeo in Cimarron, NM on the 4th of July. Skyler Ballard/PhilNews

The law of the wilderness

Hannah McCarthy
PhilNews Editor

Trustworthy, Loyal and Helpful: these are just a few of the qualities all Scouts strive to possess. Crew 623 Q12 came to Philmont in search of a deeper understanding of those traits.

On June 23, 2016, a crew of Law Enforcement Explorers passed through the Welcome Center threshold and into a land of High Adventure. The crew was filled with ambitious teens seeking a career in Law Enforcement and/or Military Service.

“After high school I’m planning to go to college at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City, and I plan to join the academy and become a police officer,” said Angeles Calleja, an Explorer from Dallas, Texas.

Crew member Gavin Walker also expressed plans of going to college and later going into the military or becoming an FBI Agent. The two had never been

to Philmont before and said it was quite a challenge at first.

“We got kind of confused about what we were supposed to do, because it was our first time being out here in the backcountry. We’re used to the city so everything was a new experience,” Calleja said.

Among the challenges listed, the crew found the weather to be the toughest obstacle. They recounted stories of hail storms in certain parts of their trek. They also struggled, at first, with New Mexico’s higher elevation.

Once they adjusted to their new environment, they were able to complete a trek from Zastrow to Mount Phillips during which they participated in program that helped them prepare for their futures.

“The black powder shooting was fun. It definitely got me interested. If I were to get some form of weapon later on in life, it would make me prepared for that... also the hiking itself helped me get a glimpse of what the military might be like,” Walker said.

The crew also got to ride horses and learned how to navigate, cook, hang bear bags and set up tents. Each day they divvied up the activities listed on their duty roster so that each person had a chance to help the group.

Aside from the physical activities that are important to every Philmont trek, the crew also learned valuable team building skills which will help them achieve their personal career goals.

“It definitely showed me how to follow orders given and also how to protect people who may not be able to protect themselves...to stand up for someone who is being bullied,” Walker said.

The Explorers grew individually and as a crew, and they expressed interest in returning to Philmont in the future.

“We support each other,” said Calleja. “We try to have each others’ backs, because without one another we can’t survive. Everyone has an important role in our team, and that’s what matters.”



Advisor and officer Angeles Hernandez of the Dallas Police Department leads part of her crew through the rain to their campsite on July 1, 2016. “Especially in the climate that we’re in with law enforcement and the public, I think it really helps to show the youth and the next generation that we are just people just like they are and that we are relatable and approachable,” explains Hernandez. Gabriel Scarlett/PhilNews



Denroyen Vanriel, member of the Explorers crew from the Dallas Police Department, helps to light a campfire during a light rain on one of their last nights on the trail at Sawmill Camp on July 1, 2016. “I learned that you have got to be motivated, got to stay strong when the going gets tough,” says Vanriel. Gabriel Scarlett/PhilNews

Right: A crew made up of Police Explorers from the Dallas Police Department enjoys their first lunch on the trail at an overlook at Toothache Springs on June 24, 2016. “It takes a team to make it out of here,” said Angeles Calleja, right, near the end of their trek. “Everyone has something important to put into this team to make it work.” Gabriel Scarlett/PhilNews



Far right, bottom: Angeles Calleja, left, and Gavin Walker, center, work with their Ranger Jared Deatherage to navigate their first route on the trail from Zastrow Turnaround on June 24, 2016. Gabriel Scarlett/PhilNews



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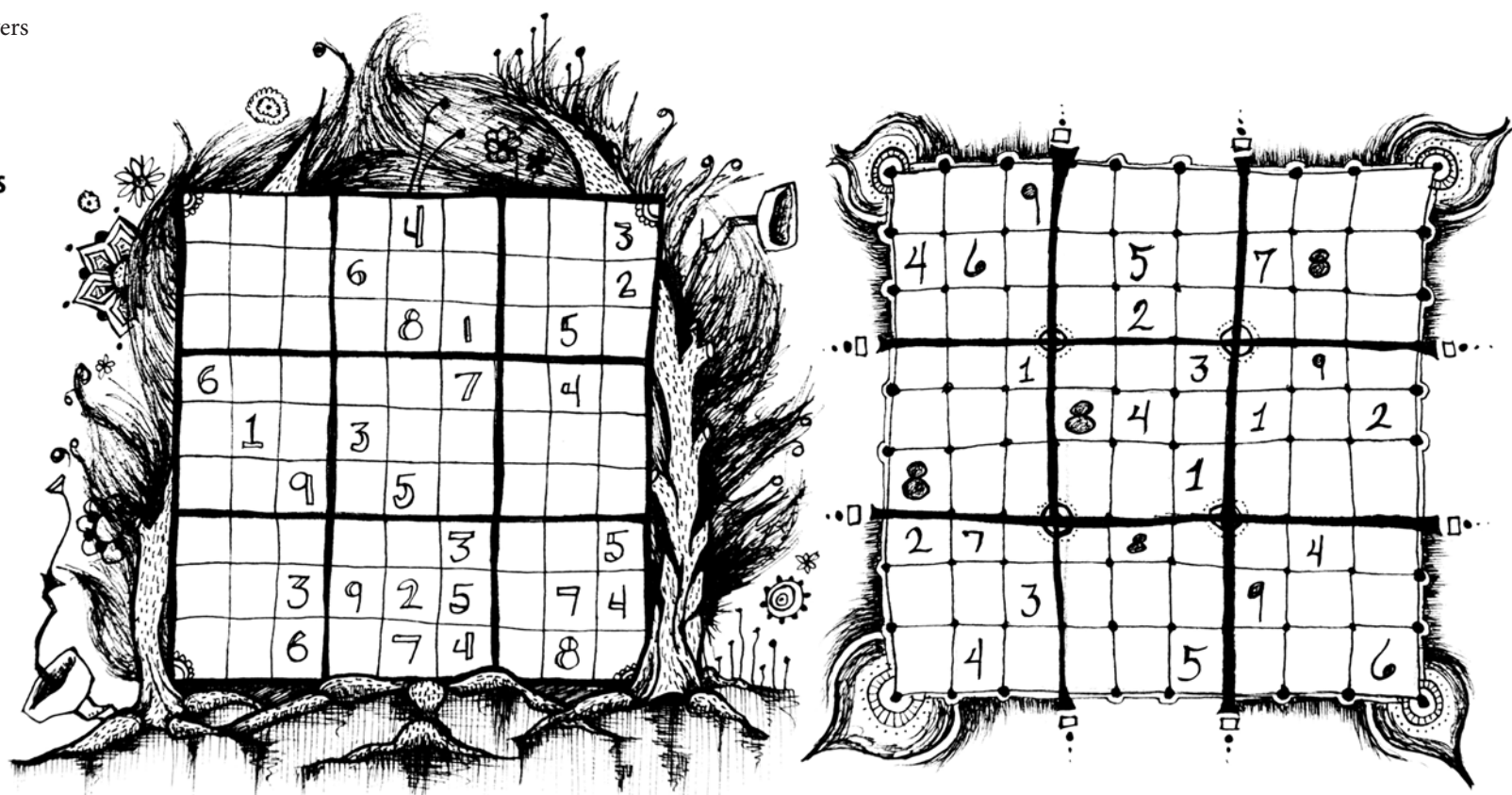
Last Week's Answers

Down

- 1. Shaefers Peak
- 2. Baldy Mountain
- 3. Trail Peak
- 4. Tooth of Time
- 5. Hart Peak
- 6. Mount Phillips
- 7. Bonito Peak

Across:

- 8. Black Mountain
- 9. Comanche Peak
- 10. Big Red



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Love that conquers all

Suzannah Evans
Staff Writer

The love of a mother is strong enough to overcome the greatest hardships. When Cindy Lopez found out that she had cancer, her first thought wasn't of dreading the treatments or of potential death.

"...My first thought was, I'm not going to be able to go to Philmont," said Lopez.

Lopez's family has always been involved in Scouting. Her father spent time at the Philmont Training Center because of his role in the Catholic Committee on Scouting. At age 19, Lopez completed her first Trek. Both of Lopez's brothers are Eagle Scouts. Her younger brother, David Miller, met his wife, Susan, when they worked at Philmont in the late 1980's. David worked for the Ranch Department and Susan in the Dining Hall and then in the Backcountry. She was one of the first female Backcountry staff members. Now two of Lopez's five children have been on Trek with her. However, this Trek would be a little extra special.

Lopez found out she had cancer during the planning stages of her Trek. This was going to be the last Trek she and her youngest son, Miguel, would take before he headed off to college. For a while, Lopez was unsure if she would be able to go or not. Eventually, she realized she would not be strong enough to attend.

However, her illness wouldn't stop her from being with Miguel. With her doctor's consent, Lopez began planning. Wanting her arrival to be a surprise, Miguel was not informed of her plan to visit. Philmont readily agreed to a mother-son reunion on top of the Tooth Ridge Camp.

"My troop has a lot of traditions, we only choose treks that end on the Tooth," said Lopez.

On a hot July morning, Lopez and her brother and sister-in-law headed up the Stockade Trail. David and Susan would take turns hiking behind Lopez to help her over the boulders that make the Stockade Trail notoriously difficult.

Her Troop, Troop 520 from Cedar Hill, Texas, named their Trek the "Lopez Trek." The four crew contingent sported turquoise tee shirts with a pink ribbon on the sleeve.

Lead by Ranger Reid Schmidling and Ranger Trainer Will Corcoran, Lopez and company only took a few breaks getting up the mountain.

Despite the difficulty of the hike, Lopez would not give up. Stopping once to place a wet pink bandanna around her neck, she did not complain. She would see her son soon, she wouldn't give up now. She had fought too hard, and the reward was too precious to give up.

"[After all that Chemo], this must be a piece of cake," said Susan.

David and Susan had wanted to return to Philmont for awhile, like Lopez, they love Philmont. When Lopez approached them about surprising Miguel, they decided to make an anniversary trip out of it.

"I've been all over this place, on foot, horseback, pickup, and carry all...I just can't get enough of it," said David.

David's sister has an equal affinity for Philmont.

"It's just beautiful. It's one of the hardest things you've ever done, but the most rewarding," said Lopez.

After reaching Tooth Ridge, the group set up camp, eagerly awaiting the impending reunion.

It was discovered that Miguel was bouldering with friends and would be back shortly.

When Lopez finally saw her son, she could not contain her excitement.

"What's up, Miguel?" said Lopez.

Miguel made his way to his mother.

"Dr. Marshall said I couldn't come empty handed," said Lopez as she handed her son a big bag of candy.

Miguel eagerly filled his mom in on everything that happened while on Trek. This was Miguel's third Trek and second time serving as Crew Leader.

"I've been journaling the whole

time," said Miguel.

The two sat on a fallen log with a sectional map spread out over their knees. Lopez listened intently as her son told her of all the highlights and funny stories.

"I just gotta come out here on staff... and work in one of the [Backcountry] camps," said Miguel.

Miguel will be a Freshman at the University of Houston next year where he will be studying Music Education.

Miguel suspected that his mom might be at Philmont.

"...I knew she couldn't last two weeks without seeing me," said Miguel.

When he heard that she had made it up the Stockade Trail, Miguel was nothing short of impressed.

"Good job, Mom!" he said.

That evening, the Scouts climbed the Tooth of Time. Miguel carried a camp chair for his mom so she could watch from the bottom.

This was the last full day of the Trek for Troop 520.

The next morning, they packed up camp and headed down into Base Camp, many of them pledging to return.

Lopez will be coming back next summer with her Venture Crew as the Lead Female Advisor.

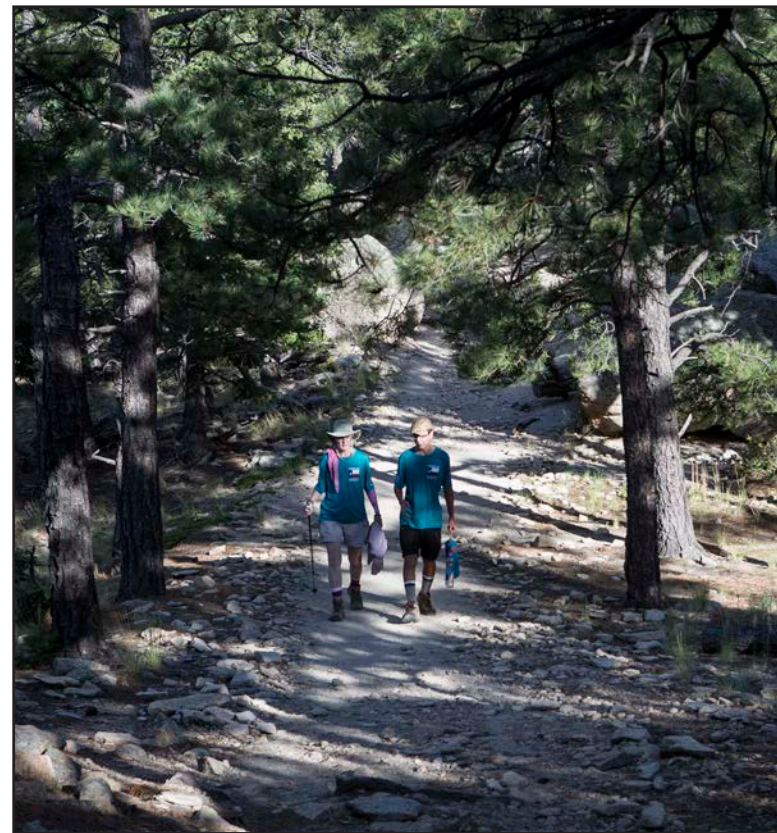
"Boy Scouts meets my need for the outdoors," said Lopez.

Lopez had originally planned on a career in forestry, but her plans changed as she began having children. Her son, Ernest, has also been on Trek with her.

Right before the Contingent hiked under the "You Made It!" sign, they stepped aside allowing Lopez to lead the last part of the Lopez Trek.



Cindy Lopez leads the crew into Base Camp Tuesday, July 5, 2016 after spending the night at Tooth Ridge. Lopez was asked to lead the crew back into Base in honor of her beating breast cancer and making it back to Philmont for the fifth year. Madelynne Scales/PhilNews



Cindy Lopez walks with her son, Miguel on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 on the way to the Tooth Of Time. Cindy waited at the base of the Tooth for Miguel as he climbed to the top with his crew on the final night of his trek. Madelynne Scales/PhilNews



Miguel Lopez, right, shares stories from the trail Tuesday, July 5, 2016 with his mom Cindy, uncle David and aunt Susan Miller at Tooth Ridge. Cindy Lopez was unable to be with Miguel for the entirety of the trek when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Since April of this year, Cindy has been cancer free and was able to surprise Miguel on the last two days of his trek. Madelynne Scales/PhilNews



Miranda Camp Director, Corey Mullins, rallies the camp directors before the Ranger and Backcountry Softball game on Sunday, July 3, 2016 at the Cimarron baseball field. Drew Castellaw/Philnews



Members of 623 Q12 listen to the "Red Roof Talk" given by Ranger Jared Deatherage before hitting the trail from Zastrow Turnaround on June 24, 2016. Gabriel Scarlett/PhilNews



William Downey hugs his mom Diane Downey after returning on July 7, 2016 from his five-day Mountain Trek in the Philmont backcountry. "Some parts were hard but thats what made it fun..." says William, "I really had to test myself." Lex Selig/PhilNews

During the stomp at Cyphers Mine,v Matt Snedegn, stands in the middle of the audience to conduct the sounds of what the mine might have sounded like. The audience is broken into four groups and each is given a sound to make, then Snedegn carefully conducts the sound of mining. Clay Helfrick/PhilNews



Top: A child gets ready to ride her Independence Day themed bike down the street during Cimarron's 4th of July parade. Skyler Ballard/PhilNews

Left: Colt Thomas, 14, takes a power nap on the Tooth of Time on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at sunset. This was Thomas' final night of his 12-day trek. Madelyne Scales/PhilNews