History of the Santa Fe Trail

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer

Today the Santa Fe Trail is dotted with small, often forgotten, towns, abandoned businesses, relics of the Civil War, historic Spanish missions, Native American remnants, and former army garrisons. Marked by its changing terrain—from long, barren desert expanses, to wide open prairies, to the peaks of the Sangre de Cristo mountains—the Santa Fe Trail is a historic landmark, often admired but rarely utilized. Here at Philmont, we know of the trail because of the multiple backcountry camps, trails, and departments centered around it, and for one of its most famous landmarks, the Tooth of Time, which marked two weeks remaining for travelers headed toward Santa Fe, N.M.

While it may be a quiet setting for hiking and Scouting activities today, the remnants of the Santa Fe trail used to be a bustling highway for nineteenth-century westward travelers, passing through key landmarks and expanses like Diamond Spring, Buffalo Plains, Pawnee Rock, the Arkansas River, the Cimarron desert and the Sangre de Cristo mountains.

Once described by Stanley Vestal as "a long rope flung carelessly across the plains—an old rope, loosely twisted, so that here and there the strands parted only to join again," the Santa Fe Trail is one of the oldest, regular land routes across the Great Plains, originally stretching from Franklin, Missouri to Santa Fe—an expanse of five states.

Prior to its opening in 1820 by William Becknell, the trail was home to multiple Plains Indian tribes such as the Kiowas and Utes, the Navajos, the Apaches, the Pueblos and the Comanches. Once the trail opened to settlers, traders and trappers, such Native American tribes were pushed out and taken by diseases carried by the westward travelers, creating tensions between the Native Americans and the settlers. As the number of travelers increased, the trail soon became home to trappers, traders, Franciscan missionaries, and adventurers such as William Bent, Susan Magoffin, the first known woman to make the trip across the trail, Francis Aubry, who completed the fastest crossing of the nearly 800 mile trail in 5 days and 16 hours in 1848, and Kit Carson, who is widely known here at Philmont for his role in settling Rayado.

With the new settlers however, came new tensions. As the western-bound settlers made their way father south and west along the trail, conflict arose between the New Mexicans and the Americans, and the trail became a driving factor in the Mexican War. Later, the trail again served a key role in war, as Civil War soldiers used the trail as a main transportation line in the West.

However, despite the destruction caused by these wars, the trail continued to grow and evolve through the years until the mid-nineteenth century when the Santa Fe Railway began to take the place of trails. In 1880, the railway reached Santa Fe. The Santa Fe Trail's transition into railway allowed for new expansions and industries and fulfillment of the United States' westward expansion.
Inside This Edition...

Mark Anderson..............................3 Rayado..........................12
Owen McCulloch............................3 Dan Beard..........................13
Chaplain’s Corner...........................5 Ponil..............................13
Quitting Tobacco Use.......................5 Basecamp.........................14 & 15
PhilCast........................................6 Services..........................14
Sustainability Statement.....................6 Logistics.........................14
Author Harriet Freiberger...................7 Security..........................15
Seton Book Signing...........................7 Mailroom........................15
Fire Danger Reminder.......................8 World News......................16
Ambulance Donated..........................9 U.S. News........................17
Burro Drive.................................10 Sports..............................18
Backcountry.................................12 & 13 Entertainment..............19
Urraca.........................................12 Games..........................20

Submit to PhilNews

Have a thought, story, comic, drawing, photo or idea that you’d like to share with the Philmont community? PhilNews welcomes submissions and letters to the editor. Please I-Camp your submission to PhilNews, email it to philmontnps@scouting.org or drop it by the NPS office. All submissions must include your full name, contact number, location and the date! Photographs must also include a description of the photo. For a submission to be considered for the next issue, please have it to us by Friday at 5:00 p.m. All submissions become property of Philmont Scout Ranch.

We are continuously striving to better meet your needs. If you have suggestions for future articles or ways that we might better serve you, please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Corrections

pg. 6: Tim Collier not Tim Colver.
pg. 7: Joseph Monfeli is in Conservation.
pg. 7: A sailor’s watch is four hours.
pg. 12: The photo captions should read “interpretive” camps, not “interruptive” camps.
pg. 20: A few of the crossword puzzle lines were mixed up. For answers and corrections see the answers section on this week’s game page.

Activities Calendar June 16–June 29

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 16</th>
<th>Friday 17</th>
<th>Saturday 18</th>
<th>Sunday 19</th>
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<td>7-9 p.m.</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</td>
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<td>*Handcraft Night @ PTC</td>
<td>*Closing Program @ PTC</td>
<td>Cimarron Days</td>
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<td>*Buffalo BBQ @ PTC</td>
<td>*Follow Me Boys @ PTC</td>
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<td>Movie Night: Inception in the S’AC</td>
<td>Humans Verus Zombies @ Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Soccer Night in the S’AC</td>
<td>*Interfaith Chapel Service @ PTC</td>
<td>*Western Dance @ PTC</td>
<td>Ultimate Frisbee</td>
<td>Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</td>
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<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>8:30 - 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Yoga w/ Jason @ the Fitness Center</td>
<td>8:15 p.m.</td>
<td>*Wanna-Be Band</td>
<td>8:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Kickball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Scouting</td>
<td>Yoga w/ Jason @ the Fitness Center</td>
<td>Human Chess meet @ Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>Game System Night in the S’AC</td>
<td>*Buffalo BBQ @ PTC</td>
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<td>*Handcraft Night @ PTC</td>
<td>*Closing Program @ PTC</td>
<td>Day Hike to Lover’s Leap</td>
<td>*Interfaith Chapel Service @ PTC</td>
<td>*Buffalo BBQ @ PTC</td>
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<td>*Follow Me Boys @ PTC</td>
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<td>Ladies Night: Princess and the Frog and nail painting Gentlemen: Star Trek in the S’AC</td>
<td>Dodgeball @ the Basketball Court</td>
<td>Smores Night in the S’AC</td>
<td>*Opening Program @ PTC</td>
<td>*Handcraft Night @ PTC</td>
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<td>*Follow Me Boys @ PTC</td>
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<td>8:30 - 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Yoga w/ Jason @ the Fitness Center</td>
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<td>*Inception in the S’AC</td>
<td>*Western Dance @ PTC</td>
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<td>Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</td>
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<td>Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carson Movie Night in the S’AC</td>
<td>*Handcraft Night @ PTC</td>
<td>Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</td>
<td>Table Games Triathlon in the S’AC</td>
<td>*Buffalo BBQ @ PTC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yoga w/ Julia @ PTC</td>
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</table>

* We ask that staff members wear full uniform at PTC events (Staff may, however, wear western attire at Western Night). We also ask that they be considerate of our participants during the programs (ex: to wait for participants and family members to be served cobbler first).
Mark’s Minute

Keep an Attitude of Self-Improvement

By Mark Anderson, Director of Program

Approach each day with an attitude of self-improving!

As the summer begins to move with a steady motion and we become comfortable with our team, each of us should approach each day with an attitude of self-improving.

John Maxwell in his book, The 17 Essential Qualities of a Team Player, describes three processes that people who are constantly improving themselves adopt as an ongoing cycle in their lives:

1. Preparation: Self-improving team members think about how they can improve today—not some far-off time in the future. When they get up in the morning, they ask themselves, “What are my potential learning moments today?” Then they try to seize those moments. At the end of the day, they ask themselves, “What have I learned today that I need to learn more about tomorrow?”

2. Contemplation: If you study the lives of the truly great individuals who have influenced the world, you will find that in virtually every case, they spent considerable amounts of time alone—contemplating, meditating, listening. Time alone is essential to self-improvement.

3. Application: Applying what you’ve learned is sometimes difficult because it requires change. Most people change only when one of three things happens: they hurt enough that they have to, they learn enough that they want to, or they receive enough that they are able to. Our goal is to keep learning so that we want to change for the better every day.

This approach will help each of us attack our interpretive role here at Philmont each day and help us adopt the attitude of self-improving.

“You can claim to be surprised once; after that, you’re unprepared.”

If you and your team spend some time reflecting at the end of the day you will probably find one or two things that you or a member of your team have been surprised about. It is said that “you can claim to be surprised once; after that, you’re unprepared.”

By looking at the situations that have surprised you or others of your team you can identify those things that need self-improving. These can be the things that can be your learning moments for the next day. They can be the things that you can contemplate through the next day to seek solutions and ideas that will contribute to self-improving for you and the rest of your team. They can be the things that you apply to your operations both individually and collectively that will help you be more prepared for all situations and opportunities.

Thank you for adopting an attitude of self-improving. This attitude will help us connect with the expectations of each participant that is living their dream here at Philmont Scout Ranch this summer.

Owen’s Corner

Reminders: Scouting and Santa Fe

By Owen McCulloch, Associate Director of Program

Professional Scouting Reception:
Thursday June 16, 2011

A reminder that on Thursday, June 16, 6:00 p.m., a reception is being held at the Villa Philmonte Gallery Room for individuals who are interested in learning more about Professional Scouting. Joining the reception are several Scout Executives who are the CEO’s for local councils, as well as representatives from the regional and national offices of the Boy Scouts of America to answer questions about professional Scouting. Food and refreshments will be served.

If you are interested in attending the reception or want to learn more about professional Scouting, contact Owen McCulloch at Camping Headquarters, 575-376-1131 (office) or 575-447-2115 (mobile), or I-Camp your name and department. An invitation is not required, but please RSVP so we have an accurate count of attendees.

Cimarron Days Celebrates the Santa Fe Trail

Artisans, craft vendors, food, music & games. Cimarron Historical/Interpretive Park displays & historical tours of Old Town Cimarron.

An open mic stage is available for all appropriate musical talent, poetry and even karaoke! The stage is open Saturday 10-2 p.m. and Sunday 10-3 p.m.

For more information visit: http://www.cimarronnm.com/sft.html

Apply now for a Philmont Staff Association Scholarship!

Awards of $500 for first year staff, $1,000 for second year and $1,500 for third year staff will be made for the Fall 2011-Spring 2012 academic year.

Scholarship recipients must be accepted by an accredited institution for enrollment as a full-time student (at least 12 credit hours). Recipients may also be enrolled in a graduate program.

Scholarship funds must be used for tuition, fees related to degree course work, books or housing (in that order) at any accredited institution of higher learning.

Requirements:

Applicants must be current Philmont Staff Association members.

Applicants must be current seasonal staff members.

Applicants must apply to work at Philmont for the upcoming summer.

Applicants must need financial assistance for education.

Applicants must complete the application in full. The final evaluation from the applicant’s staff leader will also be added to the application.

The application deadline is August 31, 2011. Applications may be submitted to the box provided in the Silver Sage Staff Activity Center or mailed to:

Philmont Staff Association
17 Deer Run Road
Cimarron, NM 87714

Application forms are available in the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center, the Registration office and the Philmont Staff Association office.

Last year, the PSA received 60 applications and awarded $25,000 in scholarships! Apply today!

www.PhilStaff.com
Weather Forecast
June 16 – June 23

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<th>Thursday 16</th>
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<td>Sunny/Windy</td>
<td>Mostly Sunny/Windy</td>
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<td>High: 91</td>
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<td>Low: 52</td>
<td>Low: 50</td>
<td>Low: 51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wind: SW at 24 mph</td>
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<td>Wind: W at 23 mph</td>
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<td>Mostly Sunny</td>
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Sanchez Auto Repair
156 E. 12th St.
1 Block off of Highway 21
Phone: (575) 707-0114
After Hours: (575) 376-2137
Discount with Staff I.D.

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(Ask about the new CD w/10 screen saver images)
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www.lmartinpavletich.com - LMPartnm@yahoo.com

You are cordially invited to attend the official ribbon cutting ceremony of the Village of Cimarron Highway 64 New Town Visitor Interpretive Center and enhancement project at:

Cimarron New Town Interpretive Center
Lincoln Avenue and West 10th Street, Cimarron

Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 11:00am

Sponsored by the Village of Cimarron in partnership with Cimarron Chamber of Commerce, National Park Service, National Scenic Byways, New Mexico Department of Transportation and the Santa Fe Trail Association.
Stay involved throughout the year!

Keep up-to-date with the latest High Country, regional reunions, access to the member’s directory, cool stuff, and much more...

A fellowship of current and former Philmont staff

SIGN UP NOW!!!
It’s just $15.00 for a year’s membership!

I-Camp Randy Saunders with the form below or stop by our office (next to the Beaubien Room) at PTC.

www.philstaff.com

Name: ______________________________________________

Position/Department: __________________________________

Permanent Address:  __________________________________

City, State, ZIP: ______________________________________

Birthday: ___________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________________

Payment method (Check appropriate box):
CASH _____ CHECK _____

CREDIT CARD: #_______________________ EXP. DATE: ______

PAYROLL DEDUCTION (through July 31) _____

Chaplain’s Corner
The Need For A Guide

By Chaplain Adam Carrico, Catholic Chaplain

There is an obvious need for guides here at Philmont. Just getting around basecamp is hard for a new person to do alone. The Rangers certainly know how important having a guide is when you are an inexperienced (or maybe not-so-inexperienced) crew. We all need guides at one point or another here at Philmont, and the same can be said for our friends and family back home. Having someone help you out a little by showing you the way is something that every person needs. It is helpful to recognize that need and to appreciate it if you can. We do not always need to know the way for ourselves at every moment; expecting oneself to always know the way is like picking up an unnecessary burden.

This need for a guide extends to the spiritual life as well. Others have always gone before us and have worked hard mapping out trails through dark periods in their lives; those people may be able to help point you in the right direction, helping you to find your way through. This does not mean that spiritual guides have to know all the answers; as a matter of fact you may be at a different, but similar, juncture in your life and the spiritual guide cannot tell you exactly which path to travel; they can, however, help you make your decision. I myself have had need of people to help me through dark periods in my life. My time between college and seminary was a stressful and confusing period, and I was only able to make my way out by reaching out and allowing others the chance to advise me in my decision-making regarding future plans and desires. In fact, I could not be where I am today in my seminary studies, and here at Philmont, if I did not remain open to allowing people to guide me forward. At seminary, to help us always seek the advice of another, we all have to have spiritual directors and their jobs are to help us discern our path.

There are plenty of people here at Philmont who can serve as spiritual guides. The Chaplains, for example, are specifically here to listen and help you find your way. I am not, however, simply going to ask you to accept spiritual guidance; I also want to ask you to give it. Live your Duty to God and be open to being spiritual guides for one another! Reach out to those amongst us who you know are feeling a bit lost right now; give them a chance to tell their story, and together you can work to find a way through. Who knows they may even help you find your way as well! In this way spiritual guidance is typically mutually beneficial. Often times we only realize how lost we are after having passed by several opportunities to stop and ask for guidance.

“Having someone help you out a little by showing you the way is something that every person needs.”

Quitting Tobacco Use

From the desk of Paul Grasse, Camping Projects Manager

Myth: Smokeless tobacco is a safe alternative to smoking because it has no smoke and is not addictive.

Fact: No tobacco is safe tobacco, including smokeless forms.

Tobacco in any form is never safe, and the best option for your health, and the health of others, is to quit.

Smokeless Tobacco can also cause the following:

- Tooth abrasion
- Gum recession
- Increased tooth decay
- Tooth discoloration
- Bad breath
- Nicotine dependence
- Unhealthy eating habits
- Oral cancer
- Other cancers, including cancer of the pharynx, larynx and esophagus
- Higher risk of heart disease
- Stomach problems
- Fatigue
- Muscle weakness
- Dizziness
- Decreased physical performance
New: Philmont PhilCast

By Emily Fraser, NPS Videographer

The News and Photo Services department is excited to present PhilCast, a new weekly video cast that will highlight Philmont’s unique programs and spread the word about this amazing place that we get to call home for the summer. Each week, PhilCast will feature a different aspect of the ranch, from its diverse backcountry camps, to the area’s rich history, to the exciting family programs offered at the Philmont Training Center.

Former and future staff and participants can watch PhilCast from home to get their weekly “Philmont fix” or to get a preview of what to expect when they come for the first time. PhilCast will be posted each Monday on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Flickr. For current staff members without YouTube access, there is a downloadable version available from the Philmont website: http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/About/PhilCast.aspx. PhilCast and other Philmont videos will also be featured on the new TV above the fireplace in the Tooth of Time Traders.

The NPS videography team - Sean Barber and Emily Fraser - along with manager Bryan Hayek, have been hard at work planning, shooting, and editing since they arrived at basecamp. The first episode of PhilCast was released on June 6th and received an impressive 465 views within the first 24 hours. Of course, the more viewers the merrier, so please try to tell your family and friends to tune in each week. The videography team has a great line-up planned and is looking forward to providing fun and informative video casts all summer long.

Sustainability Statement

Recycling Tips

By Sarah Burgess, Sustainability Coordinator

In an effort to further Philmont’s sustainability efforts, the following is a list of recyclable materials provided by the Philmont Commissary. While Philmont greatly appreciates your sustainability efforts in recycling, it is asked that all containers, with lids removed, be rinsed and free from food before recycling. It is also asked that all aluminum and plastic bottles be placed in green bags and all recyclable trail meal bags be placed in clear bags. Please consolidate recyclable bags in bear boxes or in the blue bear boxes behind the commissary and in the BCM parking lot. If possible, please try to separate plastics from cans. These bags will then be picked up by backcountry drivers for backcountry camps.

Philmont is currently unable to recycle tin or glass, but Philmont appreciates the sustainability efforts being made already and encourages continued efforts.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Sarah Burgess, Sustainability Specialist, Unit 97.

Recyclable Materials:
- Coffee creamer
- Dressings (Italian and ranch)
- Folgers coffee
- Grape jelly
- Honey bottles
- Ketchup
- Mayonnaise
- Pancake syrup
- Peanut butter
- Real lemon juice bottles
- Vanilla extract
- Vegetable oil
- 2% milk
- Juices
- Chlorox bleach
- Aluminum cans
- Apple cider vinegar
- BBQ sauce
- Chocolate syrup
- Apple cider vinegar
- BBQ sauce
- Coffee creamer
- Dressings (Italian and ranch)
- Folgers coffee
- Grape jelly
- Honey bottles
- Ketchup
- Mayonnaise
- Pancake syrup
- Peanut butter
- Real lemon juice bottles
- Vanilla extract
- Vegetable oil
- 2% milk
- Juices
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- Mayonnaise
- Pancake syrup
- Peanut butter
- Real lemon juice bottles
- Vanilla extract
- Vegetable oil
- 2% milk
- Juices
- Chlorox bleach
- Aluminum cans
Words for PhilNews:  
June 11, 2011  
By Harriet Freiberger, Author Lucien Maxwell: Villain or Visionary

Today’s travelers, driving from Denver to Santa Fe via an interstate highway, are not aware that, from Trinidad, south to Springer, and west to the top of the mountains, almost all the land was part of a Mexican land-grant originally awarded to Carlos Beaubien and Guadalupe Miranda in 1841.

Visitors to Cimarron, in this twenty-first century, can have little conception of Lucien Maxwell, the man who was responsible for growth of a thriving trade center over 150 years ago. Ever since I came to Philmont for the first time, back in 1989, I’ve heard jokes about the mountain man who married thirteen-year-old Luz Beaubien, a girl so ugly, they said, that on the day of her wedding she wore a black veil over her face. Supposedly he married to obtain his father-in-law’s wealth. Maxwell became so rich that he kept bars of gold in his never-locked desk drawer.

Something drew me to this man’s defense. As I read and researched, I discovered that Luz Beaubien was actually a beautiful young woman, and that, by 1860, when Congress confirmed the land grant, Lucien Maxwell was already a majority owner. He had purchased a partner’s share and land around the Rayado settlement. Then, after Beaubien’s death, Lucien and Luz bought out the interests of her sisters and brother. 1,714,764 acres; nearly 2,680 square miles.

When he was 51 years old, having paid out a little more than 50,000, Lucien and his wife owned the almost 2 million acres of the Beaubien and Miranda Grant. Their wealth, in that time and place was beyond belief. In 1866, gold, which he had known about for years and had thus far left untouched, was discovered on his land, and the herds poured into the previously pristine lands. Immediately he opened the Aztec Mine which, during its first fourteen months of operation, produced gold valued at nearly one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars.

By the time he was fifty-three years old, Lucien and Luz Maxwell had sold everything in Cimarron for $650,000 and had moved to Fort Sumner where he spent the rest of his life. He enjoyed his fine horses, gambling thousands of dollars on races. With huge amounts of cash at his disposal, the nation’s financial panic of 1873 made liquid assets even more valuable. Though many asserted that Lucien Maxwell lost his fortune through unsuccessful investments, it is more likely that he merely lost, probably by his own wishes, public attention. With nine thousand head of cattle and fifteen thousand sheep, he was far from a pauper.

“Rayado was the first settlement east of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains ...”

Lucien died, at age fifty-six. Five years later the railroad connected New Mexico with cities east and west, and the Santa Fe Trail was, like the vast buffalo herds that had been completely decimated, a relic of another time. The west, as it had been, died.

The size of the grant was in question because when Beaubien and Miranda originally applied for the grant, there was a Mexican law, which limited each grantor to no more than 11 square leagues. A league was a variable unit of measure, usually about three or four miles. It can therefore be assumed that Beaubien and Miranda intended to acquire about 22 square leagues - or about 96,000 acres. The description of the grant was typically vague, which contributed to the controversy over the years and the documentation was susceptible to later “interpretation” - so much so that what came to be known as the Maxwell Grant ended up being over two million acres.

Congress confirmed the grant in 1858.

Visit the following websites for more information:
http://lucienmaxwell.com/
http://www.legendsofamerica.com/nm-maxwell.html

Maxwell Book Signing
By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer

Last Wednesday, Harriet Freiberger, author of the book Lucien Maxwell: Villain or Visionary, came, signed her book and spoke to a group of people at the Seton Library about Maxwell.

Freiberger "lived down river from the town where Lucien Maxwell grew up, viewing the western horizon as he did from a high bluff that overlooked the mighty Mississippi. Not until moving to the same shining mountains where Lucien traveled with John Fremont did she realize whose footsteps she had followed."

She then traveled from Cimarron to Taos, Bent’s Fort and Saint Louis to learn more about Maxwell.

“I tried to avoid hearsay or rumors,” said Freiberger to the group, “only truth and facts.”

That is exactly what she researched about Maxwell; the man who is known for the Maxwell land grant. Originally Beaubien and Miranda tried to receive the grant from the government, but years passed and the land was bought by or given to Maxwell by his father-in-law Beaubien.

Freiberger answered many questions from those in attendance including Gordon McKinney. She also cleared up any misconceptions or rumors that were said about Maxwell’s wife, Luz Beaubien.

According to her website, Freiberger has been working on her book for a long time, collecting information and putting it all together. Lucien Maxwell: Villain or Visionary was first published in 1999 and revised recently.
The Fire Danger status on Philmont Scout Ranch has been established as Extreme.

This is the result of continued low humidity, strong winds, warm temperatures and low levels of moisture during the winter and spring.

Extreme means that fires start quickly, spread furiously, and burn intensely. All fires are potentially serious. Development into high intensity burning will usually be faster and occur from smaller fires than in the very high danger class. Every fire has the potential to become large. Expect extreme erratic behavior. NO outdoor burning should take place in areas with extreme fire behavior. Fire restrictions will be in place.

Notice of fire restrictions status will be posted at Logistics, Welcome Center, Philmont Training Center Bulletin Boards and Backcountry Staffed Camps. Everyone should be watchful of potential fires. Report fires to Logistics at Philmont Extension 1239 or call 911.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

- Open fires and fireworks are prohibited.
- No crew campfires in the backcountry. All crews must use stoves for cooking. The stove should be located in or adjacent to the fire ring.
- Smoking is restricted to safe designated areas:
  - PTC – Curtis Multiplex Pavilion
  - PTC – Staff Area behind shower house.
  - CHQ – Advisor Lounge Smoking Room.
  - CHQ – Dining Fly behind the Silver Sage Staff Activities Center at the edge of the fence line.
  - CHQ – Dining Fly near the Staff Fitness Center.
  - Cattle Headquarters – Designated area.
  - Designated fire ring at Staff and Trail Camps. No smoking along the trail.
  - Inside a motor vehicle equipped with an ash tray.
- Program restrictions:
  - No program campfires. Backcountry Camps will use kerosene lanterns at program campfire locations.
  - Use of fire places is prohibited.
  - Use of Tabasco Donkey water heater systems is prohibited.
  - During red flag warnings – use of wood burning stoves is prohibited.
  - Wood fires at Chuck Wagon, Mexican Dinner and Cobbler Delights are prohibited.
- Black Smith Forges, black powder shooting (in a designated cleared area), use of propane and use of charcoal at designated areas is permitted.
- Carson National Forest – Stage I Fire Restrictions – Effective June 10, 2011
  - Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, wood or charcoal burning stove fire except within a developed recreation site in grills.
  - Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
  - Possessing, discharging or using any kind of fire work or other pyrotechnic device.
  - Gas and propane stoves, lanterns or heating devices are permitted.
Ambulance Donated to Philmont, then Cimarron

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer

Last Friday, the NPS office received a phone call from Nate Lay, Health Lodge Officer/Paramedic, about an ambulance that was being donated to Philmont Scout Ranch. However, there isn't really a place for it here at Philmont. Therefore, Philmont is donating the ambulance to the village of Cimarron. They are very excited about it.

“This is no small donation,” said Lay. An ambulance costs roughly 150,000 and that isn't including the price to outfit the ambulance with the needed supplies.

Philmont received this donation from Rick Bronson who is a longtime Scouter from Oklahoma and a friend of Philmont for many years.

Bronson has been involved in Scouting since he was 8 years old, almost 47 years. He first came to Philmont when he was 12 and visits occasionally. He said that Philmont is “very dear to my heart.”

Bronson was an AMS paramedic for 35 years and is now retired. During his 35 years, he was one of the first medical officers to arrive on the scene of a tornado in Kansas state. The ambulance was set to arrive on Saturday afternoon but was delayed until Sunday morning because of three tornados near the Beaver, Texas county line.

“God has been wonderful to us and blessed us that you know you have got to share what you have.”

Bronson came across the ambulance through a company he has owned for the last 4 years called Integrity EMS Ambulance Company in Oklahoma.

He actually had made a previous donation to the Health Lodge for furnishings in the Trauma Room. There is a plaque on the wall outside the trauma room to honor this donation.

“It's not a new ambulance, but it's fairly new. It's in very nice shape, been re-worked and everything,” said Lay, “we're pretty excited about that.” On the ranch there are about twenty people or so who work, all as volunteers, for the ambulance service in Cimarron and several of them are from Philmont.

The ambulance service was founded by Wayne Baker and several others about 34 years ago. This new ambulance will now give the village of Cimarron three ambulances which “gives us a lot of options when it comes to responding here at Philmont, to patients, as well as an area of 700 square miles that we cover,” said Lay.

This is the response area but that doesn't include when they cover for other villages like Springer and the interstate that they help with.

“Having an additional ambulance will be a great asset to us,” said Lay.

Bronson said, “If I can cause some part of that [life-saving] to keep going...what better place for that to happen than in God’s country?”

Bronson loves Waite Phillips saying, “the only things we keep permanently are those we give away.” He added that, “legacies are meant to live on. God has been wonderful to us and blessed us that you know you have got to share what you have.”
Burro Drive and Horse Shoeing

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer

Every year in early June, Philmont staff and visitors witness massive parades of horses and burros running through camp (led by the wranglers and Cavalcade horsemen.) Known to some as the horse-running and to others as the horse-driving, the events mark the nearing of camper arrival as the Horse Department moves approximately 250 Philmont horses, along with about 80 burros, from their winter pastures to their camps: Beaubien, Clarks Fork, Ponil, and to their pastures near basecamp so that campers can use them for Cavalcades and rides.

The horse drives can take anywhere from one and a half hours, when driving to Clarks Fork, to about three hours when driving to Ponil, and even longer when driving to Beaubien, which is the most complicated drive. In order to drive the horses, approximately 250 Philmont horses, along with about 80 burros, from their winter pastures to their camps: Beaubien, Clarks Fork, Ponil, and to their pastures near basecamp so that campers can use them for Cavalcades and rides.

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The horse runs quickly and it becomes very difficult to hear, so when the animals do something unpredictable, which happens frequently, it is very difficult for the drivers to address the issue with the same plan. It can be "incredibly stressful," says Dee, but the best part is "when you get there" and nothing bad has happened.

In order to work so smoothly together, the wranglers and horsemen must go through approximately two and a half weeks of training so that everyone is trained in the Philmont way. The staff comes from all types of riding backgrounds, so training includes riding, shoeing, saddling, driving, how to help the participants, branding, general animal care and fence repair, so that they can all work as a unified wrangling staff.

During the drives, the Horse Department is also responsible for vaccinating the livestock, branding the new horses, and shodding the horses (fitting them with horse shoes). During the winter, the horses are left shoeless, so at the beginning of the summer season, all the horses must be fit with new shoes. The process typically takes one to one and a half hours for each horse, but can take up to three depending on the animal. In order to shoe the horses, wranglers must first trim the hooves, which are made of a horn-like material, and then flatten the hooves using a large file. Next Wranglers must shape the shoes by hammering them against an anvil. They then hammer the shoes into the hooves and cut off the sharp edges of the nails. They end by clinching the shoes to secure them to the hooves and lining up the edges. This process is repeated throughout the summer as the horses start to trip or limp, or as the shoes begin to fall off.

With the horses properly shoed, cared for, and in their proper pastures, the horses and Wranglers are ready for campers and a full season of the Philmont experience.
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JUST LOOK FOR ALL THE FLAGS
Urraca

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer

As Urraca Camp’s newest arrivals approach the camp’s main cabin, Camp Director Ian Bagley, “Bags” for short, invites them onto the front porch for their porch talk.

This, however, is not your ordinary porch talk. Bags and his five fellow staff members wrote a song to introduce themselves and convey the necessary information about the camp. Once the crew files up the steps past the welcome sign, which informs campers that Urraca is indeed the “Haunted Mesa,” Bags grabs a guitar and a harmonica. “I’ll sing it in the style of Bob Dylan,” he says, “because he’s my hero.”

It is said that the Mesa is haunted, and stories of supernatural occurrences circulate amongst Philmont staff across the ranch every year. Urraca Camp’s program, however, has a different focus. The camp staff runs a challenge course with activities like the “Whale Watcher,” “Spider Web” and “The Wall.” The activities are intended to foster teamwork amongst crew members.

“What keeps going wrong?” Program Counselor Brian McArdle asks one crew attempting to fit all of its teenage members onto a two foot by two foot block. “What’s the trick?” they ask. “There is no trick,” he answers. “It just takes communication.”

As the kids move on to the “Spider Web,” McArdle lets them attempt to figure out the best way to get themselves through the web without touching any of the strings. “You’ve got to be methodical,” he says. After the activity the crew was encouraged to be introspective about the experience. “What works? Do you think you had a leader?”

Most crews who come through Urraca will do so on the second day of their trek. Urraca’s challenge program is intended to help crews become more cohesive, work through problems and learn to communicate with and value each other before they get too far along on the trail.

The challenge course is not the camp’s only offering; the Urraca Camp staff also puts on a nightly campfire. The group is one of the most musical that the camp seen in several years. Between six people the camp has a variety of string instruments: several guitars, a banjo, a dobro, a ukulele and a violin, along with a tambourine.

In addition to renditions of Edward Sharpe and James Taylor songs, staffers also tell jokes and ghost stories. Program Counselor David Keegan tells the tale of an elusive creature with green eyes that attacks members of a crew, leaving its victims with broken ribs and claw marks. Another, told by Program Counselor Katie Bach, chronicles a Ranger who became obsessed with the Mesa, had an encounter with a supernatural being and disappeared.

The stories of hauntings and supernatural occurrences might not just be stories; to see if the rumors are true, visit Urraca.

NO ORDINARY PORCH TALK: Urraca camp director Ian Bagley of Fort Collins, Colo., gives a porch song instead of a porch talk to a crew on June 10.

Rayado

By Danielle Edwards, PhilNews Writer

Rayado comes from the Spanish term for “streaked.” It is along the State Route 21, home to the Kit Carson Museum, at the far southeast corner of Philmont and was a stagecoach stop for the Santa Fe Trail. It is also home for eight Philmont staff members for the next couple of months.

This summer, in Rayado, it is the year 1853, when Maxwell and Kit Carson left in the Spring for California to buy sheep at $.50 a head which they then sold for $5.50 when they returned.

It is their absence that the eight Philmont staff members choose to interpret this year. Each staff member interprets a different person that they received on a Philmont-provided list for the summer. Most are former fur-trappers because the fur trade has died down and try to be in first person as much as they can.

Since Rayado is on State Route 21, they not only receive Scouts, but also locals and people just passing through.

While these people are in Rayado they are able to learn about the history of Rayado and participate in fun activities such as tomahawk throwing, learn the parts of an anvil, and are able to make an S, J or I hook with some of the tools in the blacksmith shop.

When the fire ban is lifted, the staff will be able to stretch and scrape hides and cook outside for themselves using the horno, which is an adobe bread oven.

In 1849, Lucien Maxwell moved with his family to Rayado and conflicted with the Native Americans and had trouble with settlers unwilling to settle in the area. He talked his friend Kit Carson into moving down to Rayado with his family, which Carson did that year. Rayado started to grow slowly, and eventually Maxwell moved to build his own ranch in Cimarron, and Carson became a Ute Indian agent and moved to Taos.

Rayado flourished under Jesus Abreu in 1859-1860, but in 1910, after Jesus died, his son lost Rayado and moved to Taos and Bernalillo. Throughout 1910-1927 several companies tried to colonize Rayado but were unsuccessful and eventually it was given to the Boy Scouts of America by Waite Phillips in 1941 with the Philtowers, Villa Philmonte and other land.

Now the Rayado staff members plant and tend their own gardens along with their chickens and goat Matilda, who only eats when people are around. It is a place where people come to visit and learn about the West.

The staff members may live in the tents provided for them, although some choose to sleep in the Dragono rooms. Dragono meant mounted infantry but changed during the 18th century to mean light cavalry. The U.S. Dragoons rented facilities from Lucien Maxwell between 1849-1853. Although some of the staff have chosen to sleep in these rooms, they have to clear out all modern items before people start arriving, so that it is authentic to the time period they are interpreting.

When asked why he choose to work at Rayado, the Camp Director Blue said, “I get to work here, which means I get to work at Philmont.”
Dan Beard

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer

Possibly one of the most resourceful backcountry camps, Dan Beard is maintained throughout the summer by five staff members, one first-year, one second-year and four staffers with three or more years at Philmont. Before beginning work at the camp, all underwent a week long challenge course with Gene Schnell.

While awaiting the arrival of campers, the Dan Beard staff has replaced the camp's challenge course sign posts, built rock walls for the paths and even made themselves a makeshift shower house with the excess building materials during their off time, which is usually occupied by siestas, outings to the viewpoints, and afternoon tea. The entire staff seems to thoroughly enjoy residing at the camp. Will Ott, Program Counselor at Dan Beard says he wanted to be at a relaxed camp. David Ayliff, Camp Director at Dan Beard, agrees saying he wanted a non-interpreters backcountry camp, and Dan Beard is a great fit. In fact, the only thing the staff dislikes about the camp is that they do not yet have a propane stove.

When they are not building, relaxing or hoping for the arrival of a propane stove, the Dan Beard staff is teaching campers important teamwork, communication and leadership skills. The Dan Beard camp is one of the three challenge course camps on the ranch. The course has changed slightly through the years, particularly after the Ponil Complex Wildfire of 2002 destroyed much of the surrounding areas, including the former course. Today, the course, though slightly smaller in the number of events, consists of a “Spider’s Web” obstacle, which challenges Scouts to move through holes without touching strings, a “Whale Watcher” obstacle where Scouts must work as a team to balance back and forth across a plank, a “Portal” obstacle, which is similar to the “Spider’s Web,” “God’s Finger,” where participants must get a tire over a tall pole without actually touching the pole, and the infamous “Wall,” where the crews must work together to get each other over the wall. New to the course is also the “Island’s” obstacle, in which campers must get from one square to another using planks of multiple lengths. Along with the challenge course, the camp also offers evening programs for the participants and a conservation project, which consists of thistle maintenance. This teaches campers Leave No Trace and conservation principles.

According to Ott, the staff is excited to have campers at their camp and looks forward to “seeing something click in their heads and to see them enjoy the wilderness for what it is.”

Ponil

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer

To get a glimpse of what the West used to be like, Ponil is a good place to start. The camp, which receives first-, third- and last-day crews, offers a variety of activities as part of its program.

Ponil is one of the most popular camps on the ranch. About 30 crews will move through the camp per day, and the staff expects to see roughly half of the nearly 23,000 participants this season.

The camp is one of the largest, with 21 staff members (15 Ponil staff and six wranglers) and nine buildings spread over a mile and a half, and is also one of the most historic. The area was a logging camp and railroad headquarters before it became the property of Waite Phillips. It was then the base camp of the former Philturn Rocky Mountain Scout Camp and was finally dubbed Ponil.

Although the season’s first Scouts have just begun to arrive, Program Counselor James Daniel is already looking forward to the coming weeks. “The crews are just great,” he says. “I know that 30 crews a day is going to be hectic, but I’m so excited to hang out with them and get to know Scouts from all over the country… from around the world, too.”

Camp Director Matt Murray explains that Ponil’s program has eight parts: the cantina, the trading post, the commissary, branding, roping, the chuck wagon dinner and breakfast and the cantina show. The trading post also features a museum detailing the history of Ponil through maps and artifacts found around the camp.

With so many activities, the staff will have little downtime. Their days begin before 6:00 a.m., when Program Counselors prepare for the chuck wagon breakfast. The rest of the day is spent leading crews through the camp’s program, preparing the chuck wagon dinner and ends with the 8:00 p.m. cantina show every night.

The chuck wagon breakfast is prepared by the adult advisers and features pancakes, sausage and orange juice. The chuck wagon dinner, however, has been temporarily revised due to the fire ban. Instead of the traditional beef stew and Dutch oven biscuits and cobbler, Ponil staff now serves stew, peaches and saltine crackers.

The cantina show is one of the staff’s favorite aspects of the program. There are four guitar players, four piano players, a trumpet player and a washboard player among the group, as well as one who is trying to learn the harmonica.

Before crews began to arrive the group only had about 20 hours of practice time. “I’m amazed at how quickly our musicianship has come together,” says Daniel. As for the music, “any song that sounds good we’ll play… but we’re trying to orient it towards the Country Western feel,” says Commissary Manager Tom Guyer.

Though the interior of the cantina is filled with positive, fun energy during the show, a grim reminder of the past is evident right outside the door. Looking out at a panoramic view of the mountains behind the camp one can see the remains of the Ponil Complex Fire that burned over 92,000 acres on Philmont property in June of 2002.

Ponil was once used as a safe zone during the fire just before its containment. Fortunately, the fire stopped just across the canyon from the camp, and none of the original buildings were damaged. While activities are back in order nearly a decade after the fire, Cantina Manager Donnie McDaniel says that “it’s weird to think that it was nine years ago now, and nothing has grown back.”
Services

By Andie McFarland, PhilNews Editor

The Logistics office at Camping Headquarters is one of the busiest on the ranch and serves several integral functions.

The department’s 17 staff members, including the manager, four assistant managers and 12 trip planners, all of whom are seasonal employees, focus first on trip planning. Before each crew goes on its trek, a Logistics staff member sits down with the crew leader and an adult adviser and “tells them what they need to know,” says Assistant Manager of Trip Planning Cory Davidson.

Trip planners go through the crew’s itinerary day-by-day, reviewing the backcountry programs at the camps the crew will stay at and making suggestions that could positively influence the crew’s Philmont experience, “explains Austin Bergman.

In addition to reviewing the crew’s itinerary, Logistics staff also gives crew leaders information about a slew of other topics, including safety, showers and cell phone use. Across the room from a board full of helpful information is the notable “Big Board,” where Logistics staff keeps track of all of the crews on every itinerary.

The Big Board serves as a hard copy of where crews are at any given time in case of power outages or technological issues that might prohibit staff from accessing digital databases. Bergman explains that there is a system of checks and balances in place to ensure that all information placed on the Big Board is correct.

First, the trip planner posts the itinerary. Then, a checker re-checks all of the information that the trip planner posted. After that, the information is entered into a computer database. Finally, the information entered into the database is reviewed one more time.

The Logistics department also oversees all transportation on the ranch. Buses to and from turnarounds are scheduled by Logistics staff, and transportation is also arranged for anyone sick or hurt.

Finally, Logistics oversees all radio communications on the ranch. “When you hear someone call ‘base’ over the radio, says Davidson, “we’re ‘base.’” As a courtesy to the backcountry camps, Logistics does a nightly readout of the following day’s itinerary. The radio room doubles as a search and rescue (SAR) dispatch and staff members man the switchboard after hours.

Since May 30, the Logistics department has been operating 24 hours a day, and it will stay that way until Aug. 22. Drivers and phone operators are always on call.

The department has performed an integral role on the ranch since the mid-1960s. In its early days it was called the Control Staff. A lot has changed since its inception, however, especially in recent years.

As with many departments on the ranch, Logistics has its own challenges. Because of the number of participants that attend every year, Philmont is unable to provide specialized trail food for Scouts with dietary restrictions. Services does, however, offer to transport food that Scouts bring along with them into the backcountry. The department is also responsible for teaching youth proper equipment use and care. They often emphasize that sump strainers are not Frisbees by playfully reminding Scouts that “we do not use the F-word around here.”

Services currently employs 13 staff and three managers. When asked what drew him back to services for seven years, Van Hecke responded that “there are very few places where you can have any impact at all on kids. At 25,000 a year, you can impact a bunch of kids.”

Logistics

By Ben McNair, PhilNews Writer

If the sea of Scouts outside the Logistics office at Camping Headquarters is any indication of its importance as a department, it’s a good one. Logistics is one of the busiest on the ranch and serves several integral functions.

The department’s 17 staff members, including the manager, four assistant managers and 12 trip planners, all of whom are seasonal employees, focus first on trip planning. Before each crew goes on its trek, a Logistics staff member sits down with the crew leader and an adult adviser and “tells them what they need to know,” says Assistant Manager of Trip Planning Cory Davidson.

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Camping Services, open from 7:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-5 p.m., helps staff and campers gear up for backcountry excursions. It is a four part operation providing (1) trail food to crews and staff hiking in the backcountry, (2) trail equipment, (3) pack rentals and fuel sales and (4) equipment check-ins after each trek. Services provides everything from tents to toiletries, and is an essential stop for all participants on their way out of Basecamp.

Jim Van Hecke, Camping Services Manager, described how extensively the department is involved with Scouts. “We are one of the few departments that sees all 23,000 members of each crew twice,” he said. Since each crew member must both receive gear from services and return it to the department before departure.

Staff often have high levels of interaction with the department as well; backpacks, which are available for Scouts to rent at $18 a trek, are free for staff to check out. Tents, sumps and all other gear carried by the department (except for fuel, which is sold at a low cost) is also free. Staff also have the opportunity to get up to three snacks a day from the famous “Wall of Food;” a veritable smorgasbord of Clif Bars, Gatorade and trail mix.

Like any department, Services has its own challenges. Because of the number of participants that attend every year, Philmont is unable to provide specialized trail food for Scouts with dietary restrictions. Services does, however, offer to transport food that Scouts bring along with them into the backcountry. The department is also responsible for teaching youth proper equipment use and care. They often emphasize that sump strainers are not Frisbees by playfully reminding Scouts that “we do not use the F-word around here.”

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Since May 30, the Logistics department has been operating 24 hours a day, and it will stay that way until Aug. 22. Drivers and phone operators are always on call.

The department has performed an integral role on the ranch since the mid-1960s. In its early days it was called the Control Staff. A lot has changed since its inception, however, especially in recent years.

As with many departments on the ranch, Logistics has its own challenges. Because of the number of participants that attend every year, Philmont is unable to provide specialized trail food for Scouts with dietary restrictions. Services does, however, offer to transport food that Scouts bring along with them into the backcountry. The department is also responsible for teaching youth proper equipment use and care. They often emphasize that sump strainers are not Frisbees by playfully reminding Scouts that “we do not use the F-word around here.”

Services currently employs 13 staff and three managers. When asked what drew him back to services for seven years, Van Hecke responded that “there are very few places where you can have any impact at all on kids. At 25,000 a year, you can impact a bunch of kids.”
**Security Department**

By Nicole Butler, PhilNews Writer

Three thousand lost items, a third of which are water bottles, 522 lockers, 1,070 staff members and 22,000 campers. These are just a few of the many things the ten staff members, three first year staff, two returning staff from different departments and five returning staff, of the Philmont Security Department are responsible for each summer.

The department, which in the past was covered by the Ranger Department, is responsible for three main areas: keys and lockers, Lost and Found and security and safety. The keys and lockers department consists of locker maintenance and upkeep, and key issuance to each of the crews that come through the camp. The lost and found, which makes up the majority of the department’s workload, maintains a 65 percent return rate on the approximately 3,000 items lost each year and a 100 percent return rate on lost electronics. The security and safety aspect of the department maintains that the camp is clear of hazards and dangers, checks on all sounded alarms, handles all assault and theft charges, ensures all lights and safety features are working properly, and ushers campers to and from opening campfire. They enforce the Philmont guidebook. The Security Department also assists in SAR missions and fire safety here at the camp, keeping the peace all the while.

With so many bases to cover, the Security Department is constantly improving and revitalizing its self. Over the past few years, the department has become much more streamlined and efficient in order to keep up with all the demands on the department. It has also vastly improved the professionalism of the department, along with the friendliness and outside relations of the department, says Rick Atmore, Security Department Manager. However, with all the improvements made over the years, there are still some challenges to working in the department, such as the limited time for training in the department. The other main challenge the department faces is trying to make their jobs work without creating a negative ripple throughout the staff and campers, whom their work affects.

Despite the struggles of the department, Atmore also spoke of just how much fun working in the Security Department is, saying there is nowhere “else in the world can you sit and watch the world go by.” He spoke of their ability to experience the energies of arriving and returning crews and to hear their “stories of adventures of what they thought and what they got.” Security Department Clerk, Casey McCann, says his favorite part of the job is just “hanging out with the guys” and getting to help others. Others on the staff say that one of the best parts of the job is getting to work with Rick and Steve, who are both fantastic managers.

Audie Neubaum, says her favorite part is getting to see everything like bits of an archaeological dig and a baby antelope right after it was born. Other staff members, Samuel Parnell and Matt Smidt agree, saying there they “get to see a lot of Philmont and have the ability to go behind the scenes... and mingle with everybody.” They also enjoy the freedom of the job. Rick Atmore agrees, saying the unknown secret of the department is that they “have the opportunity to go everywhere and see everything.”

Four of the six staff members in the mailroom have returned from last season to serve again this summer. “It’s really a great place, you get to see everyone,” said Debra Diamond, one of the office staff. Why is it a great place? Why did four of six staff members return from last summer to work in the mailroom for another summer?

According to the staff, you constantly see new faces and meet new people. They handle mail and packages for the staff of Philmont and the crews that come to Philmont. Crews will send stoves, bottles and camping equipment via UPS or FedEx. The mailroom will then receive the items and keep them until the crew arrives to pick it up shortly thereafter. Sometimes crews will send all their things by freight with shrink-wrap all around it because of the prices of checked bags on a plane or a train. The mailroom also provides stamps and postcards for purchase and will ship things that are bought from the Tooth of Time Traders for crews and staff. They deliver packages from mothers to crew members who have finished a trek, and the packages often contain cookies or some other treat that the crew can eat on the way home.

The mailroom is located near, and is a part of, the Services department. The Services office used to be in the current mailroom and the mailroom used to be in a tiny room next to it. Every staff member and crew eventually comes into the mailroom to receive their mail. When a crew arrives, they have to checkout with the mailroom and receive a stamp saying they have seen the mail staff. They love to find out where the different crews are from and, when they have come off the trail, what camp was their favorite to visit.

When they’re not busy, the mail staff will send a quick I-camp to the camp the crew enjoyed and let them know. They also play games, read books or talk when they are in between the flood of crews or staff. When a staff member comes looking for mail, they don’t have any, they will give them a piece of candy. “We are able to spread positive reinforcement,” said Linda Anderson. “It is a fun place to work,” said Debra Diamond.
Largest Assembly of Whale Sharks Discovered

Recent research, which included aerial and surface images, revealed the previously believed solitary habits of Whale Sharks may be untrue. The research, conducted by the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, discovered an aggregation or school of more than 420 whale sharks of the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico. This is the largest congregation of whale sharks discovered to date and has revitalized hope for “vulnerable” species.

Bomb-Proof Toilets Unveiled in Russia

In an effort to counter recent bombing attacks, Moscow officials in Russia have announced that they will introduce new, indestructible toiletry systems by the end of the year. The toilets, which are made of ultra-strong fibrous concrete, steel, and reinforced plastic, are vandal and terrorist-proof, according to officials. The new facilities will also be kept at a constant minimum of 60 degrees Fahrenheit and the doors will open and an alarm will sound if a member of the public uses the facility for longer than 30 minutes.

Japan’s Nuclear Protests

Recent protests broke out in Japan as citizens demanded safer energy sources for the nation. Concerned for the safety and health of themselves and the future generations, the protesters demanded an end to the Fukushima crisis, which is the worst nuclear meltdown and contamination incident since the Chernobyl disaster in 1986. The protests also rallied for the nearly 100,000 citizens who were forced to evacuate the area, and for the devastating restrictions placed on Japan’s agricultural and fishing industries. The protests mark continued disapproval for Prime Minister Naoto Kan.

U.S. said to Turn Back North Korea Missile Shipment

The United States Navy recently intercepted a North Korean cargo ship suspected of carrying missile technology to Myanmar. This shipment would go against United Nations sanctions imposed following the 2009 North Korean missile test. After several refusals to allow US forces to inspect the ship, the Korean Ship eventually stopped dead in the water, before approaching Myanmar and returned to its home port. The incident sparked further suspicion about possible arms trades between North Korea and Myanmar, two of the world’s most isolated governments.

Mugabe Pressured to Act on Zimbabwe Elections

South African leaders from the nation’s of Zambia and Mozambique recently called for immediate progress from Zimbabwe’s President Robert Mugabe on free and fair elections in the nation and on the enforcement of a power sharing deal between Mugabe and his party, ZANU-PF, and the opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change. Mugabe, who has led Zimbabwe for the past three decades, responded to the region’s request in outrage, declaring it was not the region’s place to tell Zimbabwe what to do.

Syrian Refugees Flee Turkish Border in Fear

Turkish officials announced that at least 4,300 Syrian citizens have fled violence and sought refuge in Turkey. Many of the Syrians are from the town of Jisr al-Shughour, which was recently targeted in government crackdowns. The town and surrounding villages is also the site of multiple government attacks, including the killing of 120 security personnel. Turkish officials agree with many other nations worldwide in calling the current actions of the Syrian government a humanitarian crisis and have offered full assistance to Syria’s citizens.

A Gold Rush, in a City’s Sewers

In the sewers beneath Baghdad’s jewelry district in Iraq, unemployed men of the Iraqi city spend their days scavenging through the muck of the sewers scouring for flakes of gold that have fallen through the pipes from the workshops above. On a good day, one of these men will find about $20 worth of gold flakes, which they in turn sell to smelters, who sell the reconstituted blocks back to the jewelers who washed the flakes down into the sewer in the first place. Many of the men who scrounge the sewers use only their bare hands to pick through the sewer muck and grime.

Salt-Shakers Disappear from Buenos Aires Tables

In an effort to battle the hypertension rates in Argentina, which affect nearly a quarter of the nation’s citizens, the Argentinean health department has made an agreement with the Hotel and Restaurant Federation to remove salt shakers from tables. Salt would be available to guests only after request after first tasting the food. The health department has also made agreements with local bread makers to lower the amount of sodium in the bread by 40 percent. The new regulations could help to save about 2000 lives a year in Buenos Aires.

New E. Coli Strain Found in Dutch Beet Sprouts

Dutch authorities recently announced that a strain of E. Coli was discovered on Dutch beet sprouts grown by the company Hamu. The strain is much less harmful than the deadly strain discovered in Germany. German officials are still unsure of the cause of the German-based European E. Coli crisis, but reiterated Dutch officials’ claims that the new strain is not the same strain and are continuing to try to identify the new strain.

Periodic Table Gets Heavier

After a decade of no alterations, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry recently added two new elements, 114 and 116, to the Periodic Table. The elements, named ununquadium and ununium, are considered to be superheavy (their atomic numbers are greater than 112) and exist only for a few moments in real life, as they decay rapidly after radioactive atomic collisions. The elements were first discovered by a conjunction of Russian and California scientist teams more than ten years ago.

Bangladesh Tiger Force

A new force of 300 members was recently created by officials in Bangladesh to help protect the approximately 400 Royal Bengal Tigers living in the area, along with several other severely endangered species. The force was created in response to three tiger skins recently confiscated from a poacher in the area.

Jordan’s King Announces Reform

After public protests broke out nearly six months ago in the state, Jordan’s King Abdullah II announced in a nationally televised address his plans for national reform in order to appease protesters. Abdullah’s reform plans call for the establishment of majority-led parliamentary system, elected in an even, transparent manner. His reform plans also include changes for economic growth, including new tax regulations, which would increase competitiveness, encourage investment, and stimulate job opportunities. The promises come after the king fired the nation’s prime minister and other elected officials in order to provide regime changes without changing the regime. The timeline for the plans has not been released.

IMF Hit by Cyber Attack

Officials at the International Monetary Fund announced they were hit by a cyber attack earlier this year. The attack is believed to have been designed to install software that would create a “digital inside presence.” Officials say the hack, which lasted over a span of several months, was a very major breach,” but the systems are fully functioning. The attack raises concerns over the safety of sensitive economic information the organization holds.

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Israel’s Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, said the strike is a “very major breach,” but the systems are fully functioning. The attack raises concerns over the safety of sensitive economic information the organization holds.Officials at the International Monetary Fund announced they were hit by a cyber attack earlier this year. The attack is believed to have been designed to install software that would create a “digital inside presence.” Officials say the hack, which lasted over a span of several months, was a very major breach,” but the systems are fully functioning. The attack raises concerns over the safety of sensitive economic information the organization holds.
Fire in Raton

Interstate 25, over the Raton Pass between New Mexico and Colorado, is closed in both directions until further notice. The Track fire was first reported on Sunday afternoon and has burned across 24,534 acres. Approximately 6,000 acres have been scorched. Northern Raton, NM, north of I-25, County Road 72 and Sugarite State Park have all been ordered to evacuate. The fire is 5% contained, and the initial cause of the fire is still unknown.

Arizona Wallow Fire

The Arizona Wallow Wildfire has officially crossed into New Mexico as it continues its stretch across the two states. The flames have already consumed more than 452,155 acres of land, making it the second largest fire in Arizona history. Despite its size though, the fire has only destroyed 31 homes and four commercial buildings. The wildfire is currently ten percent contained and officials are slowly beginning to allow evacuated residents back to their homes.

Creating a ‘Chickensaurus’

Jack Horner, a Paleontologist and the technical adviser to Steven Spielberg for the movie Jurassic Park, is working on a project called “Build a Dinosaur.” This project involves a study of how birds lost their tails and how hands changed to wings authored by Horner’s colleague, Hans Larsson, and how they could reverse the method to make a bird with hands and a tail.

GOP Debate

Seven Republican presidential hopefuls—including Mitt Romney, Tom Pawlenty, Newt Gingrich, Rick Santorum, Ron Paul, Herman Cain and Michele Bachmann—took the stage in New Hampshire in one of the coming election season’s first debates. Romney, Bachmann and Gingrich appeared to be the front-runners in the debate, although other candidates won favor with the audience. The seven who participated in the debate are those who are definitely in the running for the Republican nomination. So far, the “maybes” include Sarah Palin, Jon Huntsman, Rick Perry, Chris Christie, Rudolph Giuliani and former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson.

Soldiers Forced to Pay $2800 in Baggage Fees

Several U.S. military troops were outraged by the checked baggage rates they were made to pay by Delta Airlines. The Airline company’s policy allowed for up to three free bags on coach flights and four free bags on first class flights for military personnel. The soldiers, however, had been informed that they could check up to four bags for free. The charges on excess luggage cost the 34 member unit approximately $2800. In response to the uproar from the soldiers and citizens, Delta, along with several other airlines, has changed its policy to allow four free checked bags on coach flights and up to five on first class.

New Artificial Heart

Dr. Billy Cohn and Dr. Bud Frazier from the Texas Heart Institute have been working on a new artificial heart that has whirling motors and leaves the patient without a heart beat or pulse. They have tried it on an 8-month-old calf named Abigail and she is doing well. In March they tried it on a man who had amyloidosis. He died in April from the underlying disease.

Leaf App by the Smithsonian

LeafSnap, a new app for the iPhone/iPad, searches a library of leaf images, collected together by the Smithsonian Institute, just by taking a picture of it. It was originally developed in 2003 for scientists to find new species in unknown habitats but has now developed into a way for citizens to contribute to research.

FBI Agents Get Leeway to Push Privacy Bounds

Reports say the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s new edition of its manual will allow for fewer restrictions on the agents’ abilities to conduct searches on databases and aspects of personal lives. The new legislation will allow agents to search information without opening an inquiry or documenting their decision, and will relax regulations for administering lie detector tests. Those in opposition to such changes claim the FBI has already abused its powers with the national security letters. The Bureau disagrees, however, claiming that the new legislation will clarify much of the gray area in the manual.

Obama’s Approval Rating Dips Below 50 Percent

Recent polls reveal that President Obama’s approval ratings have dropped below fifty percent, most likely due to concerns over the economy and fear of a nearing depression. The percentage of Americans who approve of Obama fell to forty-eight percent, dropping from fifty-four percent in late May. The number who disapprove of the Obama presidency is up three points to forty-eight percent. This now creates the obstacle for the Obama administration to increase the Democrat and Independent approval ratings, which both dropped in the latest poll.

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Best Selection in Cimarron
10% discount for Philmont Staff
Open 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.!
**MLB Scores as of June 14, 2011**

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**Sports**

**Bruins Take Game 6 of Stanley Cup, Even Out Competition**

The Boston Bruins defeated the Vancouver Canucks 5-2 in the sixth game of the Stanley Cup last Monday night. The Canucks were in a position to take the trophy but were stifled by their inability to win in Boston, and the Cup is now tied 3-3 between the two teams. Game 7, the final game of the series, will be played in Vancouver on the Canucks home ice. The game is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15, at 8:00 p.m.

**Dallas takes first NBA title over Heat**

The Dallas Mavericks defeated the Miami Heat 105-95 in the sixth game of the N.B.A. finals last Sunday. Dirk Nowitzki of Germany was awarded the M.V.P. award, the second ever European to receive it, after scoring 21 points in the game. 10 of those points were scored in the final 12 minutes.

**Tyrson and Stallone: Boxing Hall of Fame**

Mike Tyson and Sylvester Stallone were both inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame last Sunday. Tyson was honored as the heavyweight champion of the world, and Stallone was honored for his role as “Rocky” in the film series by the same name. Other notable inductees included Julio Cesar Chavez, Kostya Tszyu, Ignacio “Nacho” Beristain and Joe Cortez.

**Jeter Poised for 3,000th Hit**

Derek Jeter of the New York Yankees is within a few hits of the 3,000 mark. The number crept closer during Sunday’s overwhelming win over the Cleveland Indians as Jeter made contact for career hits 2,992 and 2,993. The goal for Jeter is to hit the mark at his home field, but the team’s schedule dictates that the final 12 minutes.

**Shaq Announces Retirement**

Shaquille O’neal retires from the NBA after 19 years of playing and will now be called the Big AARP instead of the famous names he’s known by like Shaq Fu, The Big Aristotle, Diesel and Superman. He was drafted in 1992 in a suburb area of Orlando, Florida. His career ends with 28,596 points, 13,099 rebounds, 15 All-Star selections, four championships and three NBA finals MVP awards.
Events in Cimarron

Cimarron Days: June 16-19, 2011 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Cimarron Village Park
There will be food, craft vendors, historical/interpretive displays, tours, speakers, and wagon rides. At 4:00-8:00 p.m. on Saturday there will be a free street dance and feature LEVEL 5. Come and join the fun!

- June 16: Pro-Scouting Interest Reception, Villa Gallery
- June 17: Halden Wafford & the High Beams 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
  Where: Colfax Tavern & Diner
  Description: Dance
- June 18: Cimarron Days Sitzburger Estate 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
The building was a national hotel behind the St. James. First time open to the public for tours.
  Contact: Valerie Kootz
- July 16: Kevin Deal Band 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
  Where: Colfax Tavern & Diner
  Description: Kings of Texas music
- July 17 : Santa Fe Trail Association 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
  Where: Points of Rock, Faye Gaines’ Ranch-Springer
  Description: Springer “Round up on the Trail”
  Speakers: Gilbert Quintana-History on the Jicarilli Apaches, Terry Phillips-Stories about Black Jack Ketchum
Lunch: Hot dogs & Hamburgers provided, bring a side dish
- July 23: Open Studio and Gallery Tour 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
  Where: Village of Cimarron
Description: Maps available at the Visitor’s Center

Cartoons

The First Avenger
Stranger Tides
Live Music in Taos
Santa Fe International Folk Art Market
James Arness Dies
Laura Ziskin Dies

The El Raton Movie Theatre
111 N 2nd St, Raton, NM 87740
Box Office: (575) 445-7008
http://elratontheatre.com/index.html
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday at 7 p.m.:
Adults $7 (3D $8)
Seniors (60+) $6 (3D $7)
Children 12 and under $5 (3D $6)
Saturday Matinee at 4 p.m.
Adults $6 (3D $7)
Seniors (60+) $5 (3D $6)
Children 12 and under $4 (3D $5)
Movies and start dates:
5/26 Kung Fu Panda 2
6/10 Pirates of the Caribbean 4: Stranger Tides
The 17th Annual International Santa Fe Trail Balloon Rally will be held on July 2 (5:00 a.m.) to July 4 (9:00 a.m.) at the La Mesa Airfield in Raton, NM. There will be a pancake breakfast, music, games, and hot air balloons in the sky, all for FREE.

Storyteller’s Cinema
110 Old Taipan Canyon Rd, Taos, NM 87571
Box Office: (505) 758-9715
http://www.storytellertheatres.com/loc_storyteller.asp
Show times generally start around 12:00 p.m. The last showing starts at 9:45 p.m.
Judy Moody and the not Bummer Summer (PG)
Super 8 (PG-13)
X-Men: First Class (PG-13)
The Hangover Part 2 (R)
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (PG)
Pirates of the Caribbean: Stranger Tides 3D (PG-13)
The Conspirator (PG-13)

Balloon Rally

Live Music in Taos
There is live music on the Taos Plaza every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. It is free admission and runs through September 8, 2011.

Santa Fe International Folk Art Market
Hop down to Santa Fe on July 8-10 for the annual Santa Fe International Folk Art Market! Held at Museum Hill, the three-day affair will feature 170 carefully selected Master Folk Artists from 49 countries around the globe. Artists retain 90% of their profits, which they take back to their home communities and cooperatives.

Tickets for the Friday, July 8 Opening Party (6:30-9:00 p.m.) are $125, over half of which is tax deductible. The Market opens at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 9 and closes at 5:00 p.m.

Super 8 Takes #1
The movie Super 8, took the number one position in the U.S. box office from X-Men: First Class this past weekend. In its first three days of being released, it received an estimated $37 million. X-Men: First Class slipped down to the second position in the box office, only taking in $25 million on its second weekend.

James Arness Dies
One of the famous Western actors, James Arness, from the TV-series Gunsmoke, died on June 3, 2011 of natural causes. He started in movies such as “The Farmer’s Daughter”, “The Thing”, and the mini series “How the West Was Won”. He has worked with many actor’s including John Wayne, Harrison Ford and Burt Reynolds. He left behind his wife, two sons, and six grandchildren.

Laura Ziskin Dies
Last Sunday, Laura Ziskin, producer of films such as the Spider-Man trilogy and Pretty Woman, died of cancer at the age of 61 in Los Angeles. She co-founded the charity organization, Stand Up to Cancer.
PTC has started their first week, all programs are now operational and the First crew's have arrived. The Philmont season has begun!

Answer for Crossword Puzzle:
Across:
2. FirstAid
5. SkipYowell
7. AimsMethods
9. Basecamp
10. WaitePhillips
11. CPR
12. Ripples
13. Harassment

Down:
1. YouthProtection
3. OldMill
4. FISH
6. LeaveNoTrace
8. Scatter

We apologize for mistakes in last week's crossword puzzle.