

The Roundup



Cal Farley's
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Kids Helping Kids

Cal Farley's youth volunteer their time — and their hearts — to help children in a battle for their lives.

Every summer a group of youth from Boys Ranch spends time with children with cancer. These children are attending Camp Alphia, a week-long summer camp in nearby Ceta Canyon.

This year, the theme was “superheroes,” and the Boys Ranch group came dressed to deliver. The group danced, dressed their young charges in costumes, played games and delivered a superb superhero-themed skit.

“Our kids have been incredible,” said Heather Johnston, Boys Ranch Chapel director of music and worship. “They are really going out of their comfort zones to be with these kids. They have had no inhibitions, and they have been very compassionate.”

Two Boys Ranch alumni, Anthony Davis and Hollie Brant, are counselors at this year's camp. This is Hollie's fourth year at Camp Alphia. The California native is a 2009 Boys Ranch High School graduate and is serving her second year as a camp counselor. She began working at Camp Alphia her sophomore year.

“These kids go through so much, but they still believe that God's going to be there for them, and they're always smiling,” she said. “I actually thank God for putting me here with them. I don't know what I'd do if I were in their shoes, but they don't seem to really mind the situation they have. They don't want you to feel bad for them; they just want to be treated just like any other kid.”

Schae is a Boys Rancher originally from Oklahoma, and this is his second year to be part of this volunteer team.

“It's awesome,” he said. “My favorite part is just being with the kids. They have taught me a lot. They're hurt and have a lot of stuff wrong with them, but they seem more happy than kids I've seen without this disease. I mean, you wouldn't see a group of kids do ‘I'm a Little Tea Pot' like this. They just have more fun.”



Hollie (right) is a camp counselor at Camp Alphia this summer; her fourth year to be involved.



Schae in his role in the BR superheroes skit.

YOUTH LEARN LIFE-LONG SKILLS

For decades, Cal Farley's has been working hard to help children. One such way we help is by teaching them the importance of hard work.

The campus-wide vocational skills program helps students gain experience in many fields including construction, auto maintenance, farm and ranch, housekeeping and horticulture, to name a few. The program also partners to help the children understand the importance of money management.

“We are able to teach the kids work ethics, how to get a job, how to hold a job and how to be part of a team,” said Mel Jones, director of support services.

Standing around a table piled high with beef waiting to be cut, Kolby, Matthew, Randal and Justin concentrate on the task at hand. The young men are wearing white coats, white hard hats — appropriate attire for handling knives and large slabs of meat.

They cut into the fat and muscle with the accuracy of a professional. After all, this is what they have been trained to do. These four teenagers get to see their hard work go from living livestock to food for the whole ranch.

“I like the experience and being able to spend time with the work boss,” says Justin.

Justin's work boss, Craig Pillard, meat coordinator, chuckles, “Someone's just earned a future pay raise!”

Mr. Pillard is a Boys Ranch alumnus. He came to Boys Ranch in 1968 and was a student for nearly six years. Six months before graduating, he started working in the meat program. Since, he has worked professionally in the meat business with a variety of roles including assistant manager



Randal works every day after school and full-time during the summer.

at Wal-Mart.

With the education and experience he gained while a student at Boys Ranch, he was able to support his wife of 34 years and their two children. Mr. Pillard says he always wanted to give back what he had once received, so nearly five years ago when the opportunity presented itself, he immediately accepted.



Samantha cleans the high school.

(Continued on page 3)

What Does Success Look Like?

President's Message

By Dan Adams



S-U-C-C-E-S-S: what does it look like and what makes a child successful after being in one of our programs? The reality is that these are difficult questions to answer. Success may not be the same for every person and there are certainly different paths to getting there.

The "desired outcome" for a child who has been at Cal Farley's is to become a productive citizen. The values we hold dear manifest themselves in the attributes of a productive citizen. Those values include a relationship with God, completion of an education, a strong work ethic, strong family values, and an appreciation for service to others – after all, it is the sweat off someone else's brow that has made this organization thrive for so many years.

For youth who graduate from our campuses, we can continue to provide the "wrap around" services they need at a time when they may be more vulnerable. Sometimes; however, we do not have the benefit of seeing a child into adulthood and the best we might hope for is for him or her to leave our program at least better off than when they came.

In either case, the way we get there is not arbitrary. It is the life we create for children in our programs that determine our success in setting the stage for youngsters to become productive citizens. First, we make sure that we provide a safe place for them to be, and then offer them something of significance to belong to, such as a club, a team, or even a work crew. Safety and belonging are the most basic and critical components of any program working with youth. Without these, development beyond primitive survival instincts, for any human being, will not occur.

Next we provide them opportunities for achievement. That is, to help them identify their interests and teach them skills needed to become competent at something, and sometimes even master something. We empower them by helping them recognize that life is not always fair, and though they may not have had control over their past, they do have control over their future. And finally, we bring them into an awareness, if it did not already exist, of a purpose for their being, larger than themselves, available only through an understanding and acknowledgement of God.

I hope that through newsletters like this, we capture the moments in the lives of our youth that illustrate, through pictures and stories, the path you help pave for our youth to grow into successful and productive citizens.

Please enjoy!

Random Acts of Caring Delivers Laptops

The alumni at the new Cal Farley's Alumni Support Independent Living Center received a much-needed and well-received gift in June.

Each of the 11 apartments at the Center is now furnished with an Acer Aspire Series laptop and a Hewlett-Packard All-in-1 printer, thanks to a generous donation by Rent-A-Center through their Random Acts of Caring program.

"It is because of random acts of caring such as this that Cal Farley's is still here today," said Dan Adams, Cal Farley's president and CEO.



Lauren Gongora, a 2006 Girlstown graduate who lives at the new Alumni Support Center, takes online courses at Texas Tech University.

WEST POINT, BOYS RANCH CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN TIES

In the spirit of providing youth with morally strong foundations on which to grow, Cal Farley's and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point have joined forces. In addition to another Boys Ranch High School graduate being accepted to West Point, and one having just graduated, the relationship between the two organizations continues to grow with a summer internship program. At least one cadet from West Point will serve each summer at Boys Ranch. The internship, which is part of their degree requirements, offers them the opportunity to put their education to work and gain experience and insight into the work they will do in the future.

"We attempt to place our cadets where they can see their psychology education in action, beyond the classroom," said Colonel Donna M. Brazil, PhD, director of the psychology program at the U.S. Military Academy, at West Point. "Sending the cadets to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch exposes them to youth with wide backgrounds and a chance to share what they've learned in their life experiences with the kids."

This summer's cadet intern is 21-year-old Stephan Fitzgerald, who is a psychology major at West Point. He originates from Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

Stephan desires to be an Army officer. "After having my introductory psychology course, I became fascinated by it," he explains of his educational choice. "I figured, as an officer dealing with people, psychology would be the best major."

He explains that this experience has made him more self-aware. "I still have a lot to work on, but at least I know where my actions are coming from. Dealing with soldiers and dealing with kids, I can realize that everyone acts a certain way for a reason. It is not because they are a bad kid, but maybe they had a parent that abandoned them or some sort of family issue that you and I don't understand. Being able to understand that and relate to the kid can go a long way."

While at Boys Ranch, Stephan has been able to experience new adventures he wouldn't have back home. "I learned how to ride a horse," he laughed. He also obtained some insight on working as part of a group for a greater good.

"I gained leadership skills and advice from the houseparents and staff," he explained. "Everyday they are fighting the same battle we fight in getting people to work in a cohesive unit and getting people to get along and get tasks done. It has really been eye opening. I learned a lot."

"There are some extraordinary people here," he added. "The houseparents and staff all have one common goal that they are working toward, which is that these kids need a home."

New Roughrider Coffee Shop

Boys Ranch High School students have launched their very own entrepreneurial effort — a full-service coffee shop. The new coffee shop is located in a section of the library at the high school and is student-run (they were trained by houseparents who have worked as baristas before coming to Cal Farley's). The teachers at the high school plan to use coffee coupons as incentives and rewards for their students' efforts throughout the school year.



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(Continued from page 1)

Work Jobs Teach Youth "Real-Life" Lessons

"This is where I started and I want to help kids. These work programs teach kids a skill that helps them go out into the world and get a job, and they won't start at beginning pay with these skills."

To apply for a job, the youth must be 14-years-old and go through an interview process, the same process that they would have to in "the real world," and they are expected to behave just as professionally.

During the summer hours a student works up to eight hours a day, and they earn an hourly allowance for their work. Each student has a bank account, complete with checks, and is taught how to manage and balance their account. One of the strengths of the program is that the children also learn to



Darian learns some valuable skills with her work boss Mr. Davis.

save and to tithe.

"I'm not going to lie; I like getting paid," says Samantha about her favorite part of her job. She is doing custodial work at the high school.

The work mentors are Cal Farley's employees who are well-trained, not only at their respective skill, but to the Cal Farley's way of helping and teaching children.

They apply the Cal Farley's Model of Leadership and Service and other aspects such as relationship building, life and work skills mentoring and discipline.



Matthew cuts meat for the homes to eat.

In the July 1972 issue of *The Roundup*, Craig Pillard is mentioned in an article description of the Boys Ranch Swine Program. The purpose of the work programs has remained the same as what was written in that 1972 article:

"The real purpose of the program is teaching boys to become men through hard work, self-discipline and wise management of their earnings."

Summer Program Pairs Dogs, Kids

In June, 47 Boys Ranch children, along with house parents and counselors, worked at a local animal shelter as part of the campus summer program. On the first day they helped clean up at the Dalhart Animal Wellness Group & Sanctuary, Inc (DAWGS), but most of the time they were busy petting and receiving happy licks from the dogs. The second day they walked dogs and played with puppies.



Children from Boys Ranch spent several days helping out at a nearby animal shelter.

The shelter's personnel went through a quick lesson on working with dogs and how to best handle them.

"They walked many dogs and gave so many of them treats and attention; it was one of the best days at the shelter," said Diane Trull, co-director of DAWGS.

Trull explained that the shelter is filled with animals that have no home and are awaiting a second chance at finding a home. "Some of them were surrendered by families who had tired of them or were frustrated with them because of bad behaviors or because of hardships in the family. They all just need help and care, and the opportunity to be back in loving homes."

Trull said all of the animals have a tremendous amount of love to give, and the opportunity to share them with Boys Ranch was "wonderful for everyone."

"I think the children felt a tremendous empathy for the animals. You could see it in their faces as they petted them and walked them.

"I love the Cal Farley quote, 'Only through the youth of today is a better tomorrow possible.' The youth from Cal Farley made several better tomorrows for the dogs at DAWGS. Their love and attention gave them more hope for finding homes, and it was an enriching and enjoyable day for everyone."



Emma walks a blue heeler mix at DAWGS.

Roger Powell, Jr. Visits Ranch



Roger Powell, Jr. is so much more than a professional NBA and international basketball All-Star. He also is the founder of RPJ Ministries. Powell came to Boys Ranch this summer to share his expertise, and he held a day-long camp (RPJ Ministries Basketball Leadership Camp) for the children and youth. Later that evening, he was swept away on horseback to attend a Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Prayer Ride (pictured).

REMEMBER LOVED ONES

Contributions in memory of a loved one or to honor a birthday, wedding, anniversary or a friend in need of encouragement are appreciated. In times of joy or sadness, others are comforted by gifts that help deserving youngsters. For your convenience, we welcome contributions by cash; American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa credit cards; electronic funds transfer by calling (800) 687-3722; or through our secure Web site at www.calfarley.org.

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Girlstown Reunion 2010

The Cal Farley's Girlstown, U.S.A. campus was bustling with activity on Saturday, June 26. Over 50 girls came "home" over the weekend for a reunion and to show their families and children where they grew up.

Mr. and Mrs. Pape, who have been with Cal Farley's for 20 years (16 of which as house parents at Walton Cottage), were elated to see "their girls" and to visit with each of them. Mr. Pape played the quintessential "grandpa" and toured many of the children around the campus in a golf cart.

Activities over the weekend included meals together on campus, yearbook reminiscing, softball, volleyball, a chapel service and a handprint paper mural.



Sandy and Jesse Pape with "their girls" in front of the Walton Cottage at Girlstown.



Pictured are the four Girlstown alumni who spearheaded the reunion: (top to bottom, left to right): Kari Johnson-Cabrera, Rose Herr, Bridgette Martinez and Amy Franco.



The alumni and staff of Girlstown, U.S.A. at the Girlstown Reunion 2010, held June 25-26.

"When you've helped a child help them self, you've accomplished something." — Cal Farley

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September 4 & 5

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ticket price includes bar-b-que lunch

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