

Cal Farley's Alumni Newsletter

"The only kind of person who quits is the one who never really started." -Cal Farley

A Request of a Higher Order

A few weeks ago, I received a call from a student working on a degree in International Relations and Global Studies at the University of Texas in Austin. She expressed interest in doing an internship at Cal Farley's over the summer. The student's name is **Krystal Morales**. Many of you should remember her well...she was the proud recipient of the Cal and Mimi Farley Scholarship, our most prestigious award for outstanding youth leadership at Boys Ranch.

Krystal came to Boys Ranch from El Paso. She and her parents made the decision to reach out because they felt like Krystal had a much better chance to be successful in her life if she was away from the influences of El Paso and in a program that could help her achieve her life goals.

While at Boys Ranch, Krystal took advantage of almost every opportunity available to her. She was a leader in her class, achieving status of class President. She was in Teen Leadership Amarillo and Canyon; President of the Speech Club; member of the Spanish Club; National Honor Society member and a smattering of other activities including the Boys Ranch Youth Leadership Organization.

Krystal would not settle for being anything less that her best and became the Valedictorian of her class! She also became the first person in her family to graduate from high school and go to college.

As many of you know, I place high value on internships at Cal Farley's. Some might think my motive for encouraging these opportunities comes from our desire to teach –pure altruism. That matters, but it's actually much bigger than that. I believe that we, as an organization, gain as much or more from these encounters than the student.

We benefit from the fresh insights the students bring to us about the theory behind what we do and we teach them how to put it to practice –through our teaching, we become better. We learn from the questions they ask, some of which are challenging because we don't have a good answer. Our kids benefit from new and energized relationships that occur naturally because of the student's immersion in our programs. And sometimes, these students end up becoming outstanding employees!

I agreed to meet with Krystal a few weeks ago when I was in Austin for other business. We met for coffee at the Texas Memorial Stadium Starbucks on the UT campus. As we visited about the different types of activities she might participate in and who might supervise her I asked for her "learning objectives." Krystal indicated that her interest in non-profit organizations. She wanted to know about governance and leadership. She wanted to know about poverty and social justice.

When I asked if these objectives would meet the requirements of the department of International Relations and Global Studies, she said, "Oh, I am just doing this for my own learning experience...it isn't a requirement of my university studies." My instinctive response was, "Did I hear that right —you are doing this of your own volition?"

That shouldn't have surprised me. I had already looked at her college resume.

- She is a board member of the University Leadership Network, co-chairing a committee focused on increasing student participation and working on an assisted living project in Barton Hills;
- She is involved with the Refugee Services of Texas, mentoring women in English language skills; and is involved with the Navigators Campus Ministry.
- She is a member of the International Affairs Society; the Service Hispanic Women Network of Texas; and the UT Chapter of Amnesty International.

Needless to say, I responded to Krystal with a resounding "yes," and told her this request was of a higher order than a standard internship. Not only did I agree to supervise her, but offered her a part time job this summer. She'll be living in the Alumni Support Center and my plan is to give her exposure to a wide range of things, so you'll be seeing her around.

http://calfarley.org

Alumni Support Services

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Published Quarterly
All submissions and comments should be directed
to the editor NO LATER than June 15 to make it
into the 2015 Summer edition of the Alumni
Newsletter.

2015 Calendar

Central TX Gathering – April 25
Kansas Gathering – May 2
DFW Golf – May 16
Oklahoma Gathering – May 26
Boys Ranch Graduation – May 30
GT/Lubbock Gathering – June 13

Annual Boys Ranch Rodeo September 5-6

(See Alumni website for Gathering details)

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Condolences



Michelle Hamm Brunning
Girlstown 81-83
Dec 7, 2014
Austin, TX



Nathan Massey Boys Ranch 97-00 Jan 15, 2015 Wichita Falls, TX



Ricky Fortier Boys Ranch 66-72 Jan 19, 2015 Amarillo, TX



Doug Larson Boys Ranch 78-81 Mar 3, 2015 Azle, TX

Coach Jim Lea

BRISD Mar 18, 2015 Amarillo, TX

Dollie Johnson

BR Mar 27, 2015 Dumas, TX

Sympathy and Prayers

Becky Bell Lesak,, Joe Neusch, Robbie Hagar, Mr. & Mrs. Horner, Guy Finstad

Prayers and sympathy extended to resident Chris on the recent passing of his great-grandmother. Condolences to **Jerry Stapleton** (73) on the loss of his wife Sherry's mother.

Heartfelt sympathy is offered to **Michael Greer** (87) on the passing of his fiancée, Stephanie

New Babies!

Courtney Corrales (BR) and husband Rudy. (Son) Rudy Ismael Corrales, Jr 1/26/2015.

Amanda Allen (BR) and husband Garret. (Son) Caylor Reese Allen 2/23/15.

Megan & Michael Tuleja (BR). (Son) Landon Michael Tuleja 2/23/15.

Alison & Jeremy Brobston (BR). (Son) Benjamin Joshua Brobston 3/9/15.

Paul Stevenson (BR) and wife Katie. (Daughter) Jetta Lynn Stevenson 3/21/15.

Jessica McMahon (BR) and husband Russell. (Daughter) Charlotte Faye McMahon 3/31/15.

Roll Call (Alumni we've heard from or talked to)

Richard Strain (48), Jim Miner (51), Ronald Dean Richey (53), Chester "Cy" Garnett (54), Chuck Farrell (59), Marc Ziolkowski (60), Butch Eides (63), James Calhoun (63), Russell Perry (64), Gabby Hinds (64), Richard Amon (64), Ronnie Crouch (65), Arnold Bennett (66), Everett Davis (68), Paul Chandler (69), Danny Bell (69), Ray Heredia (70), Eddie Nickelson (71), Fred Hatchett (72), Marlin Rogers (72), Buster King (78), Danny Dale (79), Ray Crim (79), Matt Thompson (80), Dennis Linam (82), Johnny Gains (82), Daniel Scroggs (83), Donald White (84), Dean Thompson (87), James Johnson (87), Mike HySmith (87), Mark Morren (88), Beau Cream (89), Mike McMasters (90), Dustin Melton (90), Cody White (92), Richard Sheffield (95), Mario SanMiguel (97), Nicole Wheeler (97), Kansas McCracken (02), Dallas McCracken (02), Brandon Allison (03), Daniel Jones (04), Daniel Jones (04), Axl McCracken (06), Charlie Landes (08), Trevor Knight (09), Savannah Renfro (GT/10), Austin Green (12), Patsy Tallant, Bekah Westover

Where are they now?

Bubba Davis (84)



Currently, Melvin (Bubba) Davis (82-84), is active in church at Trinity Lutheran where he serves as the president of the congregation. In his spare time, he enjoys photography and golf. He has three children, two sons (Brad and Brhett), and a daughter (Brooke). Brad is a musician, Brhett is a sophomore at Amarillo High, and Brooke is a junior at WTAMU.

1995-2009, Bubba served on the CFBRAA Board of directors. He completed terms as Treasurer and Vice-President. He was the first President of the CFBRAA Amarillo chapter. In 1993 Bubba started working for Frito Lay,



1982

maintaining 23 years of service as a Route Methods Expert with the organization. He met his wife (Pam) in 1992, while working at St. Anthony's Hospital, and was married in 1993. Pam and Bubba have been married for 22 years.

After leaving the ranch his junior year, Bubba completed his high school diploma in 1985 at Nimitz High School in

Irving. While at the Ranch (Between Feb 83 to May 84), he was chosen to be a junior staff serving for most of his stay. He also worked with the Chapel monitoring the sound system for the Chapel choir. Sept 1982 Bubba joined FFA, and was elected to the office of Sentinel his junior year (83 – 84). His first job was working for Tom Novak's horticulture crew, and then with Kyle Nogle on the hog farm. 1982 through 1984, he played football and basketball. Bubba was Post on the Rough Rider J.V. basketball team, and was a Tight End on the undefeated JV football team in

Bubba's first Anderson dorm parent, Alan Dillingham, told him, "You will get out of the ranch what you put into it." After the Dillingham's, Tom and Laura Garrett guided his time at the ranch.

"I give both dorm parents credit for setting me in the right direction," Bubba explained. "I learned it was beneficial for me to get involved, (More responsibilities, more rewards, more travel)." Bubba reminisced, "When arriving at the ranch, I was 'that guy' who had a chip on his shoulder, not wanting anybody's help, and thinking I knew everything."

At 13 his father tragically passed away, setting in motion his arrival at Cal Farley's. Since he had a younger brother already at Cal Farley's, Bubba and his mother decided the ranch would be a value to the young man. Bubba was born on July 2, 1966 in Dallas, and originally lived in the Irving

"I wonder where I would be now if I hadn't gone to the ranch, and it scares me, I know not everybody had the same experience I had at the ranch, but I am grateful for the staff and peers, that helped me to be what I am today!" -**Bubba Davis**



Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association

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Bobby Sarpalius, Exec Director 817-788-8782

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER by David Rodgers (70)



Bobby Sarpalius (67)

Since our last newsletter was sent out we lost an individual that made a difference in a lot of our lives. I'm talking about Mr. Daylon Johnson. To some he was a dorm parent at one of the little boys' dorms, I believe it was Carter dorm. To others he was a math teacher at the high school. To me he was the man who came up to me, about a week before I graduated and asked me if I had a job lined up for the summer, after I was released back into the free world, as we called it.

I told him I didn't have a job and had no clue what I was going to do. Mr. Johnson knew that I had taken the new body shop class during my senior year and asked me if I was interested in working in a body shop. I thought about it for second and said sure why not. So we skipped school and off to Amarillo, Texas we went. Mr. Johnson even offered to let me drive until I told him that I didn't have a driver's license, which shocked him and he told me that we needed to get that taken care of over the next week.

What I didn't realize at the time, was Mr. Johnson had contacts all over Amarillo and could get a BR kid hired very easily. I was hired by Plains Chevrolet without having to say a word to the foreman. Mr. Johnson came out of the office and said I needed to be at the shop at 08:00 A. M. the following Monday. For the next four years I worked for that company going from a painter's helper to becoming the head painter. Thanks to someone who cared enough to ask me if I had anything lined up for the summer. Mr. Johnson would come by from time to time and I would look up and there he was checking up on me. I'm sure it was his job to help get ranchers jobs and make contacts with different companies, but to come by and see how I was doing was very special to me. Thank you Mr. Johnson.

On to upcoming events: The third annual DFW Golf for Goodness Sakes is May 16th. This event helps us fund our scholarship fund and has grown each year. You do not have to play to be part of the tournament but you are welcome to if you can make. Most of us received a letter from Chuck Farrell inviting you to help "GIVE BACK" and "MAKE A DIFFERENCE". If you're interested then contact Bobby Sarpalius at cfbraa@sarpserv.com or 817-788-8782. Hope to see you at the tournament.

One of our association goals is to reconnect with former ranchers we grew up with, and became friends with, but lost contact with over the years. Last month I received a six page letter from a lost friend. San Sosa is his name and it was great to hear from someone who we played all sports together, worked together, lived in the same dorm together, and then one Christmas he didn't return and you don't hear from him for over forty years. It was very special to receive his letter and now I understand why he didn't return. Now I know he is still with us. I hope to see you at the Austin Gathering my friend.

Dynamic: Characterized by energy or effective action; vigorously active or forceful; energetic. Example: Boys Ranch and the Cal Farley's Alumni Association. There

are a lot of different forces impacting all of our lives...some for the good and some for the not so good. Change is an inevitable result of dynamic. BR is not what is was...thank goodness, nor is it what it will be. I remember visiting last year with Genie Harriman, Cal & Mimi's daughter, and she told me that Cal used to say, "If Boys Ranch didn't change we'd still be in the Courthouse."

He saw many changes during the first 28 years he was involved with the Ranch,

incredible, dramatic, dynamic changes. Over the last 48 years there have been many more changes.

BR does a much better job of equipping young men, and now young women, to be successful as parents, spouses, students and contributing members of society than they were able to do 50 years ago. The mindset of the leadership is always, "How can we do the best job possible of helping troubled kids be successful." There are many factors that impact everything about the Ranch: government regulations, finances, physical limitations, personalities of kids and staff, society itself. None of us on the "outside," that includes those of us who are alumni, know what dynamics are involved in the decisions being made. We certainly have no reason to deprecate the character of anyone, not knowing what they are dealing with or the motivations of their actions. There are many boneheads in our culture. But then again, there are many really good people doing the best they can to help and be a positive dynamic in the lives of others. We were blessed to have been touched by some caring people. Let's be positively dynamic in our involvement with BR and the Alumni Association.

Congratulations!

Congratulations go out to **Everett Davis** (68) on recently being presented his 25 year service award with Lubbock County.





Alvis Grant (39), who fought with the Marines in the Pacific, was honored to participate in the 70th Anniversary ceremonies at Iwo Jima. Alvis fought there and in battles at Roi-Namur, Saipan and Tinian as a Marine in WWII. Ceremonies at Iwo Jima were held March 19.

A hearty congratulations are in order!

The 2015 Oldham County Chamber honors **Khashari Wilson** (15) as Boys Ranch Student of the Year and **James Layman** (BR) as Employee of the Year.





Veterans Memorial

Recently David Rodgers had an opportunity to speak at the monthly American Legion Post # 7, Carlsbad, New Mexico about the veterans' memorial that Cal Farley's and the Alumni Association are currently constructing. Later Rodgers was presented with a check for \$200.00 donation for the memorial. We want to say thank you for your donation for this worthy cause.

Support CFBRAA with every Amazon Purchase

When you make your purchases from Amazon, log in to smile amazon.com instead of Amazon. It is the very same except that Amazon will donate .5% of all your purchases to the charity you choose. Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association is an option. Select CFBRAA as the charity of your choice. There is NO additional cost, only the opportunity to help CFBRAA with your regular Amazon Purchases. Contact the Association Office (cfbraa@sarpserv.com) if you have any questions.

The editor is attempting to locate **Duane Stanley Martin** (60)

2014-15 Board of Directors

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Alumni Support Services

I remember my family's reaction when I announced that I wanted to go into the field of social services. There were comments such as "You could make so much more money in another vocation." "The stress level is too high." "There are times it might be dangerous." These were all legitimate concerns but in spite of my family's trepidation, I knew in my heart I wanted to work with people. What my well-meaning relatives didn't realize was the intangible dividends that come along with working for a place like Cal Farley's.



For instance, I've had the privilege of celebrating with alumni when they overcome one of life's struggles or when they graduate from college. I can mourn with them when their hearts are broken and occasionally, I'm even nearby when their life's journey comes to an end. I remember going to visit an alumnus during his last days and

he was surrounded by loved ones. I told him I would come back because I didn't want to take away from time with his family. His response was, "Honey, you are my family."

These are memories and experiences that have shaped who I am and my perspective on the world. What a privilege and honor to be a part of this group of alumni that spans seven decades and the members of whom are united by the mutual experience of having been raised at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch or Girlstown, U.S.A. Thank you for allowing me and my team to occasionally lend a hand. However, we realize that the blessings are actually flowing from you to us. In regard to my family, their advice and guidance is generally spot-on. However, they missed the mark on my occupation. I've got the best job in the world.

(1983) Old Tascosa jail door discovered during a road construction project.



L-R: Harold Goodson (87), Scott Workman (88), Ruben Martinez (87), Michael Bruce (86)

