

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



As you may know, the storm damage in February was intense. The cost of restoring the road into camp and other essential areas was estimated at \$280,000, which is a difficult hurdle for a non-profit of our size to absorb.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to those who have already made contributions to this fund, helping us to raise almost \$9,000. Work has already begun, and we are hoping to bring repairs to completion this fall. Unfortunately, we are a long way from our goal and a financial impact

like this will affect Pathfinder Ranch for many years to come. Any gap between the cost of work and funds raised by this campaign will result in a decrease in program quality and an increase in costs to participants. If you haven't donated yet or are willing to make an additional contribution toward this cause, please do so by visiting our website at www.pathfinderranch.com/donate or by sending a check to 35510 Pathfinder Rd., Mountain Center, CA 92561. Donations are tax deductible and will go directly toward damage repairs.



— Chris Fife, Executive Director

STARRY, STARRY NIGHTS

Countless visitors to Pathfinder Ranch have commented on the beauty of the night sky. Far enough from the nearest city to escape light pollution and smog, Pathfinder Ranch's view of the moon and stars is clear and simply breathtaking. Now, thanks to the generosity of donors and local foundations, visitors have two new ways to enjoy the grandeur.

Pat Paige sponsored the installation of the Ray Paige Planetarium in honor of her husband. This exciting new resource will be used to orient stargazers to the night sky as well as to provide more advanced learning opportunities in astronomy. Outdoor Education students have already begun enjoying the Planetarium, and other departments look forward to sharing it with their visitors.

Meanwhile, the Community Foundation and the Environmental Education Collaborative awarded Pathfinder Ranch a grant to purchase a new telescope and other equipment that will make viewing far-off objects in space easier. "I'm excited and looking forward to utilizing the new equipment and sharing the joy of astronomy with thousands of kids this year," says Ryan Mayeda, the Outdoor Education Manager.

For many, the night sky is an enduring connection to the natural world and a pleasant reminder of one's place in the universe. Pathfinder Ranch is pleased to have these new opportunities for connection and reflection for visitors. Coming next year, staff plan to have more ways for Pathfinder supporters to enjoy opportunities like these and will be sure to share more details in future newsletters and on the website.



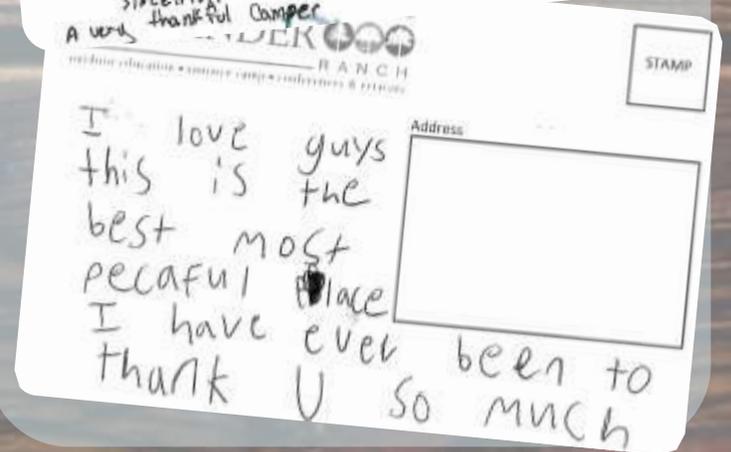
(Bottom left: "Moss" aligns the new telescope. Right, top to bottom: The Planetarium at night; Ray Paige Planetarium plaque sits outside the front door; students enter the Planetarium to explore the phases of the moon.)





POSTCARDS FROM SUMMER CAMP

This summer, over 600 campers attended Pathfinder Ranch Summer Camp from across southern California, Nevada, and beyond. Near the end of each camper's stay, they were invited to write a postcard to thank the Palm Springs Pathfinders and other donors for their contributions toward making camp happen. Most of these postcards were then sent off to donors, but every year, we have more camper gratitude than people to share it with. So, please enjoy these messages from the people at Pathfinder who matter the most—our campers.



CELEBRATE WITH US!

Focus on your occasion and your guests—we'll provide delicious food, stunning scenery, and even take care of the clean-up! Contact Elizabeth for more information or to make reservations at (951)659-2455, x. 19, or recreation@pathfinderranch.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1	SUMMER CAMP 2020 EARLY BIRD RESERVATIONS OPEN Give the gift of camp this holiday season! Take advantage of new early bird reservations to save your camper's place at camp.
December 27-29	WINTER CAMP 2019 Have a camper who can't wait until summer to come back to camp? Join us for a long weekend of all your favorite camp activities—plus cardboard robots.
April 17-19, 2020	FAMILY CAMP Mark your calendars now, and keep your eyes peeled for more info to come!

For more information on events, visit www.pathfinderranch.com/events-news



(Photo courtesy of the Mayeda family)

GROWING TOGETHER

Last year, Colter Mayeda became the first and youngest person to participate in Pathfinder Ranch's Tree Campaign. His parents, Ryan and Briana Mayeda, donated a Coulter Pine in honor of his first birthday, and now everyone watches as these two friends grow up together. Thanks, Mayeda family!

Fall is the perfect time to plant trees at Pathfinder Ranch! If the Mayeda family inspires you to dedicate a tree in honor of your loved one, please visit our website to select a tree at www.pathfinderranch.com/donate.

Did you know that Pathfinder Ranch is an organizational member of the California Association for Outdoor and Environmental Education (AEOE)? This fall, members of AEOE will convene at Pathfinder Ranch for the annual Southern Fall Conference. Learn more about AEOE and the importance of inclusive and equitable outdoor and environmental education opportunities for all students in California at www.aeo.org.

PATHFINDER



RANCH

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*Pathfinder Ranch is an 501(c)3
Summer Camp and Outdoor
Education School as well as
Retreat & Conference Center.*